

Brochure

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What is EURO?

EURO is *The Association of European Operational Research Societies within IFORS* (the International Federation of Operational Research Societies). It is a 'non profit' association domiciled in Fribourg, Switzerland. Its affairs are regulated by a Council

consisting of representatives/alternates of all its members and an Executive Committee which constitutes its board of directors. Its aim is to promote Operational Research throughout Europe.

What is IFORS?

IFORS, the International Federation of Operational Research Societies is an umbrella organisation for 45 national societies, involving about 30.000 individual members, plus several kindred societies:

AGIFORS, the Airline Group of IFORS, the Committee on Operations Research Hungary, the Fellowship for Operational Research, U.K., the Mathematical Programming Society and the Resource Modeling Association.

The national societies are grouped into four regional groupings: EURO (Europe), ALIO (Latin America), APORS (Asia Pacific region) and NORAM (North America).

IFORS celebrated last year its 40th anniversary, with a celebration carried out in Beijing during the 15th Triennial IFORS Conference.

IFORS main objectives are to promote the development of Operations Research worldwide, both in methodology and practice, and to link the different member societies and regional groupings .

IFORS is run by the Representatives of each member country, who decide on basic issues confronting IFORS and its Administrative Committee, which is responsible for the execution of activities and making proposals to the Representatives.

The Administrative Committee is elected for periods of 3 years, and is composed of a President, a Vice President at large, four regional Vice Presidents, representing each region, a Treasurer, elected for a

3 year term, renewable 2 times, responsible for handling all financial matters, and a Secretary who is responsible for all administrative and logistic matters and whose location corresponds to the headquarters of IFORS.

The Administrative Committee for the period 1998-2000 is the following:

- President Andres Weintraub, Chile
- Vice-President at large, Graham Rand, UK
- Vice President, ALIO Celso Ribeiro, Brasil
- Vice-President, APORS Moshe Sniedovich, Australia
- Vice-President, EURO, Dominique de Werra, Switzerland
- Vice-President, NORAM, Robert Abrams, US
- Treasurer Hugh Bradley, US
- Secretary Loretta Peregrina, Canada
- Past President Peter Bell, Canada

For the period 2001-2003 newly elected were Paolo Toth, from Italy, as President and Elise del Rosario, from the Philipinnes, as Vice President at large.

Regional Vice Presidents will be chosen by their respective regions by mid 2000.

IFORS Activities

To carry out its declared objectives, IFORS has developed a series of activities in different areas of interest to researchers, practitioners and teachers, which are presented in the next articles.

IFORS publishes 2 journals:

The International Abstracts in Operations Research (IAOR), edited by David Smith, which has a long tradition in collecting information on what is published worldwide in the area of Operations Research and the International Transactions in Operation Research (ITOR), edited by Peter Bell, which carries methodological and applied articles with an important international outlook, with articles from very diverse countries, which reflect the IFORS membership.

The IFORS Bulletin was initiated by Prof. Heiner Müller-Merbach in 1976. The IFORS Secretary, then Helle R. Welling, took over the editorship in 1979 and the first issue saw the light in February of that year, and since then the Bulletin has been distributed to all member societies and to OR interested persons. Helle Welling was responsible for the Newsletters for two decades and developed into a traditional and useful means of transmitting information on what is going on in the OR world, in particular to smaller societies. The Bulletin is a non-scientific publication. The Bulletin carries information on IFORS and OR activities/initiatives worldwide. But its main role is, probably, to establish a link among the various member societies. In

the Bulletin the IFORS member societies and OR people can publish everything that is going on in their respective society. Such information reaches out to all their colleagues on other OR Societies, and to a great number of lone OR workers spread all over the Globe.

The present IFORS Secretary, Ms. Loretta Peregrina, is now the editor of the Bulletin. If you wish to have your information published in the Bulletin, please contact Loretta Peregrina - lperegri@ivey.uwo.ca.

The OR For Developing Countries Newsletter is intended for academics and practitioners in developing countries (DC), and those interested in aspects relevant to them. It has been published with interruptions for about 10 years, by Roberto Galvao from Brasil and Nitin Patel from India.

The Newsletter is presently edited by Arabinda Tripathy, and is being published regularly. It carries information on specific activities related to DC, as well as articles on this area. Readers, wishing to know more about the activities in the area of OR FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, may contact Elise A. del Rosario e.delrosario@pacific.net.ph, Arabinda Tripathy tripathy@imahd.ernet.in, or IFORS Secretariat at ifors@ivey.uwo.ca.

What is Operational Research?

Though there is no "official definition" of Operational Research ("Operations Research" in the US), it can be described as a scientific approach to the solution of problems in the management of complex systems. In a rapidly changing environment an understanding is sought which will facilitate the choice and the implementation of more effective solutions which, typically, may involve complex interactions among people, materials and money.

Operational Research has been used intensively in business, industry and government. Many new analytical methods have evolved, such as: mathematical programming, simulation, game theory, queuing theory, network analysis, decision analysis, multicriteria analysis, etc., which have powerful application to practical problems with the appropriate logical structure.

Operational Research in practice is a team effort, requiring close co-operation among the decision-makers, the skilled OR analyst and the people who will be affected by the management action.

A Short History of EURO

Back in the sixties, the main activity of IFORS was the organisation of triennial international conferences addressing the world community of operational researchers.

At that time, there was in Europe an increasing awareness of numerous ongoing OR activities on one side and, on the other, rather weak means for promoting communication and co-operation among European operational researchers. Some national societies did (and do still) co-operate on an ad hoc basis but not to an extent to satisfy the general need for "something" between IFORS and the national societies.

In conjunction with the 6th IFORS-Conference (Dublin, 1972), the participating presidents of European OR societies discussed the situation and agreed to seek it improved. Invited by H.-J. Zimmermann, President of the German OR Society, representatives of eleven European OR societies met in Düsseldorf on 3 September 1973 and decided to institutionalise better ways of co-operation within the framework of IFORS.

In a more extensive meeting of representatives of European OR societies, held in Amsterdam on 3-4 May 1974, two major decisions were made:

- The representatives agreed that it would be advisable to formalise and institutionalise increased European co-operation. To this end a possible agreement between the European OR societies was drafted and it was the general consensus that such an agreement could be signed by the societies in the near future.
- It was furthermore agreed to assemble operational researchers from all European countries within the framework of the First European Conference on Operational Research.

The Belgian OR Society accepted the invitation to host this meeting and the OR societies of Denmark, Germany, United Kingdom, Norway, The Netherlands and Sweden agreed to finance the preparation by offering loans as a supplement to funds already raised for that purpose by the Belgian Society. IFORS also offered to provide a loan if necessary. The meeting was scheduled for January 1975 in Brussels, Belgium.

Normally 9 months would have been totally insufficient to prepare for an international conference addressing the entire OR community in Europe. The enthusiasm and involvement of all those who participated in the preparatory work compensated for lack of time. Thus the First European Conference on Operational Research (EURO I), was opened on the morning of 27 January 1975 at the Sheraton Hotel in Brussels. The meeting which managed to assemble no less than 506 participants was a remarkable success. Also the main objective, to institutionalise closer co-operation among the European operational researchers, was fully achieved: nine European OR societies gave birth to EURO, The Association of European Operational Research Societies within IFORS, by signing an agreement in which the signatories resolved:

- To grant to any fully paid-up member of any signatory body all rights and privileges which were offered by them to their own members.
- To exchange all appropriate information, inform other signatories of existing working groups and the dates and locations of the meetings and open such working groups to individual members of other signatories.
- To organise European Conferences on Operational Research and European Working Groups.
- To encourage the formation of Operational Research Societies in other European countries and to give such new bodies any possible help they might require.

On 8 March 1976, in a circular letter to all European OR societies, the Honorary Secretary could proudly announce: "I hereby declare that EURO, The Association of European Operational Research Societies within IFORS, is now formally constituted with effect from 5 March 1976 and the draft statutes circulated on 29 June 1975 are effective".

Considerable progress has been made since then, as is evidenced by the subsequent pages of this brochure. However, there is a continuous need for enthusiastic and dedicated people to enable EURO to maintain its present instruments and to carry out a wider range of activities in support of its objectives.

The member societies of EURO

The members of EURO are normally full members of IFORS and comprise the national OR societies of countries located within or nearby Europe. Each member is represented in the EURO Council by a representative and an alternate, one of whom votes, if required. Council meetings are held annually, normally in conjunction with the EURO-k conferences.

EURO has presently 28 members:

Austria
Belgium
Bulgaria
Belarus
Croatia
Czech Republic
Denmark
Finland
France
Germany
Greece
Hungary

Iceland
Ireland
Israel
Italy
Norway
Poland
Portugal
Slovak Republic
South Africa
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
The Netherlands
Turkey
United Kingdom
Yugoslavia

The member societies of EURO represent in total well above 10.000 individual members. Since Israel and South Africa have joined The Association, the term "Europe" is to be understood in a "broad" sense.

What is EURO doing?

The activities of EURO are organised along several "instruments" that are all designed to promote OR in Europe. The following instruments were launched in 1975:

- the EURO Association itself
- the EURO-k Conferences
- the EURO Working Groups
- the EURO Bulletin and
- the European Journal of Operational Research (EJOR)

Three additional instruments were introduced in 1983:

- the EURO Summer Institutes
- the MINI-EURO Conferences
- the EURO Gold Medals

The following instruments were introduced in 1994:

- the EURO Fellowships,
- the Eastern European Conference Initiative,
- General Support funds.

This Brochure describes what has been done so far using these instruments.

Who does what in EURO?

The EURO Council elects a President, a President-Elect, two Vice-Presidents, a Secretary and a Treasurer. These six EURO officers form the Executive Committee. The President-Elect serves for only one year whereas all others are elected for two years. No officer can stay in the Executive Committee for more than four consecutive years.

The President has responsibility for all activities of EURO. He/she is assisted in his/her task by the Immediate Past President and the President Elect.

The Vice-President 1 assists the President and supports him/her in the development of new activities. He/she has particular responsibility for:

- the organisation of EURO-k Conferences,
- the organisation of EURO Summer and Winter Institutes and
- the Education and Training programmes in OR.

The Vice-President 2 assists the President and supports him/her in the development of new activities. He/she has particular responsibility for:

- the organisation of EURO Working Groups
- the organisation of Mini EURO Conferences

The Secretary ensures the administrative functioning of the association, of the Council and the Executive Committee. He/she deals with request to EURO from outside. He/she is responsible for the General Support funds. He/she is assisted by the Permanent Secretariat.

The tasks of the Treasurer are obvious (but crucial!).

The Executive Committee is responsible to the EURO Council. It is assisted by the EURO vice-president of IFORS who is responsible of the links between EURO and IFORS and by a permanent secretariat.

The Executive Committee presently consists of the following members:

President

Prof. Dr. Christoph SCHNEEWEISS
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 insbesondere OR, Universität Mannheim,
 Postfach 10 34 62,
 D-68131 Mannheim, Germany
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 E-mail: schneeweiss@bwl.uni-mannheim.de

President Elect

Prof. Philippe VINCKE
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 C.P.210/01, Boulevard du Triomphe,
 1050 Bruxelles, Belgium
 Tel.: +32 2 650 5889
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 E-mail: pvincke@ulb.ac.be
 URL: <http://smg.ulb.ac.be/personal/PVincke.html>

Vice President 1

Prof. Zilla SINUANY-STERM
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 Beer-sheva,84105, Israel
 Tel.: +972 7 6472 223
 Fax: +972 7 6472 958
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Vice President 2

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 Fax: + 352 47 02 61 389
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 Université Paris Dauphine,
 75775 Paris Cedex 16, France
 Tel.: +33(0)144054401
 Fax: +33(0)144054091
 E-mail: tsoukias@lamsade.dauphine.fr
 URL: <http://www.lamsade.dauphine.fr/~tsoukias>

Treasurer

Dr. Philippe SOLOT
 Address: AICOS Technologies AG,
 Efringerstrasse 32, CH-4057 Basel,
 Switzerland
 Tel.: +41 61 686 98 76
 Fax: +41 61 686 98 88
 E-mail: psolot@acos.com
 URL: <http://www.acos.com>

The Executive Committee is assisted by:

EURO Vice President of IFORS

Dominique de Werra
 Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne
 Dépt. de Mathématiques
 CH-1015 Lausanne
 Switzerland
 Tel.: +41 21 693 2562
 Fax: +41 21 693 4250
 E-mail: dewerra@dma.epfl.ch

Permanent Secretariat

Philippe van Asbroeck
 Université Libre de Bruxelles
 SMG / EURO CP210/01
 Boulevard du Triomphe
 B-1050 Brussels, Belgium
 Fax: +32 2 650 5970
 E-mail: euro@ulb.ac.be
 URL: http://www.ulb.ac.be/euro/euro_welcome.html

Past Presidents

H. Zimmermann, B. Rapp, R. Tomlinson, J. Brans,
 B. Roy, D. De Werra, J. Krarup, J. Spronk, M.F.
 Shutler, P. Toth, J. Weglarz

The EURO Association

EURO is a 'non profit' association domiciled in Fribourg, Switzerland. Its affairs are regulated by a Council consisting of representatives/alternates of all its members and an Executive Committee which constitutes its board of directors.

The members of EURO are normally full members of IFORS and comprise the national OR societies of countries located within or nearby (in a broad sense) Europe. Each member is represented in the EURO Council by a representative and an alternate, one of whom votes, if required. Council meetings are held annually, normally in conjunction with the EURO-k conferences.

The Council elects a President, a President-Elect, two Vice-Presidents, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. These six EURO officers form the Executive Committee. The President-Elect serves for only one year whereas all others are elected for two years. Since 1993 the Executive Committee is assisted by a Permanent Secretariat.

The previous members of the Executive Committee are indicated hereafter (it is understood that the immediate Past-President attends the Executive Committee for one year). Without their benevolent active involvement in EURO, the Association could not have survived.

Officers

Date: 1975

President: H.J. Zimmermann (D)
 Vice-President: G. Kreweras (F)
 Secretary: R. T. Eddison (UK)
 Treasurer: J.P. Brans (B)

Date: 1976

President: H.J. Zimmermann (D)
 Vice-President: G. Kreweras (F)
 Secretary: R. T. Eddison (UK)
 Treasurer: J.P. Brans (B)

Date: 1977

President: H.J. Zimmermann (D)
 Vice-President: G. Kreweras (F)
 Secretary: R. T. Eddison (UK)
 Treasurer: J.P. Brans (B)

Date: 1978

President: H.J. Zimmermann (D)
 Vice-President: G. Kreweras (F)
 Secretary: R. T. Eddison (UK)
 Treasurer: J.P. Brans (B)

Date: 1979

President: B. Rapp (S)
 Vice-President: G. Kreweras (F)
 Past President: H.J. Zimmermann (D)
 Secretary: R. T. Eddison (UK)
 Treasurer: J.P. Brans (B)

Date: 1980

President: B. Rapp (S)
 Vice-President: G. Kreweras (F)
 President Elect: R. Tomlinson (UK)
 Secretary: R. T. Eddison (UK)
 Treasurer: J.P. Brans (B)

Date: 1981

President: R. Tomlinson (UK)
 Vice-President: J. Krarup (DK)
 Past President: B. Rapp (S)
 Secretary: E. Jaquet-Lagrèze (F)
 Treasurer: J.P. Brans (B)

Date: 1982

President: R. Tomlinson (UK)
 Vice-President: J. Krarup (DK)
 President Elect: J.P. Brans (B)
 Secretary: E. Jaquet-Lagrèze (F)
 Treasurer: J.P. Brans (B)

Date: 1983

President: J.P. Brans (B)
 Vice-President: J. Krarup (DK)
 Past President: R. Tomlinson (UK)
 Secretary: D. Xerocostas (GR)
 Treasurer: J. Pasquier (CH)

Date: 1984

President: J.P. Brans (B)
 Vice-President: J. Krarup (DK)
 President Elect: B. Roy (F)
 Secretary: D. Xerocostas (GR)
 Treasurer: J. Pasquier (CH)

Date: 1985

President: B. Roy (F)
 Vice-President: C. Schneeweiss (D)
 Past President: J.P. Brans (B)
 Secretary: D. Xerocostas (GR)
 Treasurer: E. A. Field (UK)

Date: 1986

President: B. Roy (F)
 Vice-President: C. Schneeweiss (D)
 President Elect: D. de Werra (CH)
 Secretary: D. Xerocostas (GR)
 Treasurer: E. A. Field (UK)

Date: 1987

President: D. de Werra (CH)
 Vice-President: C. Schneeweiss (D)
 Past President: B. Roy (F)
 Secretary: P. Toth (I)
 Treasurer: E. A. Field (UK)

Date: 1988

President: D. de Werra (CH)
 Vice-President: C. Schneeweiss (D)
 President Elect: J. Krarup (DK)
 Secretary: P. Toth (I)
 Treasurer: E. A. Field (UK)

Date: 1989

President: J. Krarup (DK)
 Vice-President: I. Themido (P)
 Past President: D. de Werra (CH)
 Secretary: P. Toth (I)
 Treasurer: E. A. Field (UK)

Date: 1990

President: J. Krarup (DK)
 Vice-President: I. Themido (P)
 President Elect: J. Spronk (NL)
 Secretary: P. Toth (I)
 Treasurer: E. A. Field (UK)

Date: 1991

President: J. Spronk (NL)
 Vice-President: I. Themido (P)
 Past President: J. Krarup (DK)
 Secretary: C. Roucairol (F)
 Treasurer: J. Bovet (CH)

Date: 1992

President: J. Spronk (NL)
 Vice-President: I. Themido (P)
 President Elect: M. F. Shutler (UK)
 Secretary: C. Roucairol (F)
 Treasurer: J. Bovet (CH)

Date: 1993

President: M. F. Shutler (UK)
 Past President: J. Spronk (NL)
 Secretary: C. Roucairol (F)
 Treasurer: J. Bovet (CH)
 Vice-President 1: C. Pappis (GR)
 Vice-President 2: T. Kinnunen (FI)
Permanent Secretariat: Ph. Van Asbroeck (B)

Date: 1994

President: M. F. Shutler (UK)
 President Elect: P. Toth (I)
 Secretary: C. Roucairol (F)
 Treasurer: J. Bovet (CH)
 Vice-President 1: C. Pappis (GR)
 Vice-President 2: T. Kinnunen (FI)
Permanent Secretariat: Ph. Van Asbroeck (B)

Date: 1995

President: P. Toth (I)
 Past President: M. Shutler (UK)
 Secretary: D. Bouyssou (F)

Treasurer: M. Widmer (CH)
 Vice-President 1: C. Pappis (GR)
 Vice-President 2: T. Kinnunen (FI)
Permanent Secretariat: Ph. Van Asbroeck (B)

Date: 1996

President: P. Toth (I)
 President Elect: J. Weglarz (PL)
 Secretary: D. Bouyssou (F)
 Treasurer: M. Widmer (CH)
 Vice-President 1: V. Belton (UK)
 Vice-President 2: T. Kinnunen (FI)
Permanent Secretariat: Ph. Van Asbroeck (B)

Date: 1997

President: J. Weglarz (PL)
 Past President: P. Toth (I)
 Secretary: D. Bouyssou (F)
 Treasurer: M. Widmer (CH)
 Vice-President 1: V. Belton (UK)
 Vice-President 2: T. Kinnunen (FI)
Permanent Secretariat: Ph. Van Asbroeck (B)

Date: 1998

President: J. Weglarz (PL)
 President Elect: Ch. Schneeweiss (D)
 Secretary: D. Bouyssou (F)
 Treasurer: M. Widmer (CH)
 Vice-President 1: V. Belton (UK)
 Vice-President 2: R. Bisdorff (L)
Permanent Secretariat: Ph. Van Asbroeck (B)

Date: 1999

President: Ch. Schneeweiss (D)
 Past President: J. Weglarz (PL)
 Secretary: A. Tsoukias (F)
 Treasurer: Ph. Solot (CH)
 Vice-President 1: V. Belton (UK)
 Vice-President 2: R. Bisdorff (L)
Permanent Secretariat: Ph. Van Asbroeck (B)

Date: 2000

President: Ch. Schneeweiss (D)
 President Elect: Ph. Vincke (B)
 Secretary: A. Tsoukias (F)
 Treasurer: Ph. Solot (CH)
 Vice-President 1: Z. Sinuany-Stern (IL)
 Vice-President 2: R. Bisdorff (L)
Permanent Secretariat: Ph. Van Asbroeck (B)

The EURO-k Conferences

The EURO-k Conferences are broadly oriented and have so far attracted an average of 600 participants. They are intended to be forums for communication and co-operation among European operational researchers. They are also intended to be international meetings of operational researchers who are active in the various areas of OR and to serve the free exchange of ideas and results.

National OR societies which are full members of EURO are regularly invited to submit proposals to host future EURO-k Conferences. Guidelines for the organisation of such events can be obtained from the Secretary or the Vice President. Bids for hosting a EURO-k Conference in a specific year should be made at least two years before the date of the meeting. The decision is made by the EURO Council. As part of the selection process, EURO attempts to balance the location of successive conferences in terms of geography (so that no specific part of Europe is ignored) and between large and small societies.

In making decisions, EURO also takes notice of other major international meetings having to some extent the same purpose as the EURO-k Conferences. More specifically, no EURO-k Conference is held in a year of an IFORS triennial conference.

EURO-k Conferences can be organised in co-operation with other associations such as INFORMS. In each such case, a special agreement between EURO and the guest association must be prepared.

The following table lists the past EURO-k Conferences. The forthcoming EURO XVII Conference is scheduled in Budapest, Hungary in July 2000, while EURO XVIII is scheduled in the Netherlands, in July 2001. In July 2002 the IFORS triennial conference will take place in Edinburgh (UK).

EURO k conferences

Year: 1975

Name: EURO I
 Date: Jan 1975
 Location: Brussels
 Country: Belgium
 Number of delegates: 506
 Number of papers: 115
 Chair of PC: H.J. Zimmermann (D)
 Chair of OC: J.P. Brans (B)

Year: 1976

Name: EURO II
 Date: April 1976
 Location: Stockholm
 Country: Sweden
 Number of delegates: 481
 Number of papers: 171
 Chair of PC: M. Roubens (B)
 Chair of OC: S.E. Andersson (S)

Year: 1978

Name: IFORS 8
 Location: Toronto
 Country: Canada

Year: 1979

Name: EURO III
 Date: April 1979
 Location: Amsterdam
 Country: The Netherlands
 Number of delegates: 508
 Number of papers: 276
 Chair of PC: J. Krarup (DK)
 Chair of OC: C.B. Tilanus (NL)

Year: 1980

Name: EURO IV
 Date: July 1980
 Location: Cambridge
 Country: England
 Number of delegates: 610
 Number of papers: 340
 Chair of PC: J.P. Brans (B)
 Chair of OC: M. Shutler (GB)

Year: 1981

Name: IFORS 9
Location: Hamburg
Country: Germany

Year: 1982

Name: EURO V/TIMS XXV
Date: July 1982
Location: Lausanne
Country: Switzerland
Number of delegates: 598
Number of papers: 267
Chair of PC: B. Haley (GB)
Chair of OC: D.de Werra (CH)

Year: 1983

Name: EURO VI
Date: July 1983
Location: Vienna
Country: Austria
Number of delegates: 488
Number of papers: 288
Chair of PC: C. Carlsson (SF)
Chair of OC: P. Harhammer (A)

Year: 1984

Name: IFORS 10
Location: Washington DC
Country: USA

Year: 1985

Name: EURO VII
Date: June 1985
Location: Bologna
Country: Italy
Number of delegates: 550
Number of papers: 417
Chair of PC: E. Jacquet-Lagrèze (F)
Chair of OC: P. Toth (I)

Year: 1986

Name: EURO VIII
Date: Sep 1986
Location: Lisbon
Country: Portugal
Number of delegates: 496
Number of papers: 352
Chair of PC: R. Tomlinson (GB)
Chair of OC: I. Themido (P)

Year: 1987

Name: IFORS 11
Location: Buenos Aires
Country: Argentina

Year: 1988

Name: EURO IX/TIMS XXVIII
Date: July 1988
Location: Paris
Country: France
Number of delegates: 1176
Number of papers: 925
Chair of PC: Ph. Vincke (B)
Chair of OC: P. Tolla (F)

Year: 1989

Name: EURO X
Date: June 1989
Location: Belgrade
Country: Yugoslavia
Number of delegates: 295
Number of papers: N/A
Chair of PC: R.E. Burkard (A)
Chair of OC: V. Batanovic (YU)

Year: 1990

Name: IFORS 12
Location: Athens
Country: Greece

Year: 1991

Name: EURO XI
Date: July 1991
Location: Aachen
Country: Germany
Number of delegates: 743
Number of papers: N/A
Chair of PC: J. Kohlas (CH)
Chair of OC: H.J. Zimmermann (D)

Year: 1992

Name: EURO XII/TIMS XXXI
Date: June 1992
Location: Helsinki
Country: Finland
Number of delegates: 1206
Number of papers: 935
Chair of PC: F. Maffioli (I)
Chair of OC: C. Carlsson (SF)

Year: 1993

Name: IFORS 13
Location: Lisbon
Country: Portugal

Year: 1994

Name: EURO XIII/OR 36
Date: July 1994
Location: Glasgow
Country: Scotland
Number of delegates: 745
Number of papers: 596
Chair of PC: D. Bouyssou (F)
Chair of OC: V. Belton (GB)

Year: 1995

Name: EURO XIV
Date: July 1995
Location: Jerusalem
Country: Israel
Number of delegates: 642
Number of papers: 620
Chair of PC: R. Slowinski (PL)
Chair of OC: Z. Sinuany-Stern (IL)

Year: 1996

Name: IFORS 14
Location: Vancouver
Country: Canada

Year: 1997

Name: EURO XV - INFORMS XXXIV
Date: July 1997
Location: Barcelona
Country: Spain
Number of delegates: 1048
Number of papers: 962
Chair of PC: J. Barcelo (SP)
Chair of OC: L. Valaderes Tavares (P)

Year: 1998

Name: EURO XVI
Date: July 1998
Location: Brussels
Country: Belgium
Number of delegates: 760
Number of papers: 680
Chair of PC: B. Matarazzo (I)
Chair of OC: J. Teghem (B)

Year: 1999

Name: IFORS 15
Location: Beijing
Country: China

The EURO Working Groups a contact forum for OR researchers

The European OR research community, regrouped as national OR societies under the EURO label, has a long tradition in organising European working groups on practically all topics relevant in the OR field. By looking twenty-five years back now, we may notice that the very first EURO Working Groups: Multicriteria Aid for Decision (MCDA), OR applied to Health Services and EURO BANKING still remain active and have contributed during their lifetime to major developments of the respective scientific fields. Both groups held recently their 25th anniversary meetings.

The EURO actually hosts 20 groups. These facts reveal that the original initiative to install such an organisational framework in the context of EURO has proven to be a successful one. The major reasons of the success are being found on the one hand in the presence of the EURO Working Group co-ordinators. By their personal effort to motivate and organise the activities of their respective groups, they contribute in an essential way either to the organisation of special sessions in conferences and/or to the publication of OR relevant papers in special issues of the European Journal of Operational Research or other OR-related journals. On the other hand, individual members of an EURO WG may find an opportunity to meet on a regular (at least annually) and somehow informal basis apart from the traditional conferences and their necessary short communications. During these meetings, they may exchange with people interested in a same OR topic, ideas, experiences and ongoing research results before actual publication. Fruitful European research partnership so emerged.

Some EWGs contribute actively to a Mini-EURO Conference as it was the case with the 11th Mini-EURO Conference on "Artificial Intelligence in Transportation Systems and Science" hosting jointly the 7th Meeting of the EURO Working Group on Transportation. This conference is organised by the department of Transportation Engineering, Helsinki University of Technology, in Espoo, Finland, August 2-6, 1999.

The 10th Mini-EURO conference on "Human Centered Processes" which took place in Brest (France) on September 22-24, 1999 has given birth to a new EURO Working Group with the same name.

Why Not Join a EURO Working Group?

For the members of the groups the EURO framework is providing a chance to meet regularly (at least annually) people who are interested in the same OR topic in order to exchange ideas, experiences and research results and an opportunity to find a counterpart abroad to do research together. The efforts of co-ordinators and meeting organisers to build an open and friendly atmosphere in the meetings bear fruit; co-operation in the groups is smooth and the personal relations of the group members can be described best with the word friendship. While the EWGs organise sessions in conferences, publish special issues of the European Journal of Operational Research or other OR-related journals and organise conferences, the co-operation in the EWGs means better and bureaucratically easier chances for the group members to make public the results of their work.

For the groups the fact of being a EURO Working Group means organisational and financial support of EURO. Firms can find an ideal partner from EWGs when they wish to co-operate with researchers from universities or other research establishments. With these partners firms can form a research project for which additional funds could be obtained e.g. from the European Union under its research programs. (Members planning such a project and support are advised to contact the secretariat of EURO.)

For EURO the EWGs mean continuity in research and in contacts to the field of research. The EWGs are a very important part of EURO and the work of the co-ordinators and the members of the groups is very well respected and appreciated.

If you want to get more information about a EURO Working Group or to join one, contact either the co-ordinator of the group or the second vice-president of EURO. EWGs in fact constitute a cross-national organisation of OR researchers within Europe (and not only) complementary to the National OR societies members of EURO.

The ACTIVE EWGs

At the moment, EURO has 20 active Working Groups (in the order of establishment, with the year in brackets):

1. MCAD, Multicriteria aid for decisions....(1975)
2. EUROFUSE, Fuzzy sets.....(1975)
3. ORAHS, OR applied to health services...(1975)
4. EUROBANKING, Special interest group in banking.....(1975)
5. EWGLA, Locational analysis.....(1984)
6. ESIGMA, Special interest group on multicriteria analysis.....(1985)
7. Project management and scheduling....(1986)
8. Financial modelling.....(1986)
9. ECCO, European Chapter on combinatorial optimisation.....(1987)
10. DSS, Decision Support Systems.....(1989)
11. Transportation.....(1991)
12. Group decision and negotiation support.....(1995)
13. MODEST, Modelling of economies and societies in transition.....(1995)
14. WATT, Working group on automated time tabling.....(1996)
15. Environmental planning.....(1996)
16. PAREO, Parallel processing in operation research.....(1997)
17. DEAPM, Data envelopment analysis and performance measurement.....(1997)
18. DDM, Distributed Decision Making).....(1997) (formerly, HOP, Hierarchical organisational planning)
19. Methodology on Societal Complex Problems.....(1998)
20. COWG, Continuous Optimisation Working Group.....(1999)

A new group, HCP, Human Centered Processes (2000), will be starting its activity at the occasion of the EURO'2000 Conference in Budapest.

Detailed information on all EURO Working Groups can be found on the following pages and on the Internet address: (http://www.ulb.ac.be/euro/euro_working_groups.html).

How to create a EURO Working Group?

If a group of researchers and/or practitioners cannot find an established EURO working group with the OR-topic that interests them, it is possible to apply from the EURO Executive Committee for the EURO Working Group status. There are certain requirements that such a group has to meet:

1. The EWGs should as far as possible bring together people with different professional backgrounds mixing of possible research, education and OR practice.
2. The group should have ideally have an European membership. This requirement is met if at least 4, but possibly 5 or 6 European countries are represented at each meeting and if the meetings do not take place too often in the same country.
3. Any group should be open to any individual member of any EURO member society. In some exceptional case also persons that are not members of a national OR society can be accepted.

Becoming a EURO Working Group brings duties and advantages to the group. One of the duties is that the co-ordinators of the EWGs have to report yearly on their activities to EURO. One of the advantages is that the group obtains organisational support from EURO. EURO K conferences provide time and space for the meetings of the EWGs and the meetings can be set within the framework of the conference itself. Nowadays several EWGs organise their meetings on the day(s) before an EURO K conference starts, or on the day after it finishes. EURO also supports EWGs by offering an opportunity to use the EURO Bulletin as the group's newsletter. Another advantage is that an EWG obtains financial support from EURO. Financial support can be granted e.g. for printing costs of common stationery, for administrative costs in the establishment of a new EWG and occasionally for meeting expenses, such as those of guest speakers or for some specific colloquium

or seminar. More details on the organisation and activities of EWGs are stated in the charter of the EURO Working Groups; see Internet: http://www.ulb.ac.be/euro/euro_brochure.html.

More information about Working Groups can be obtained from EURO. The EURO-officer in charge of Working Groups is the second vice-president: Prof. Raymond Bisdorff, Centre de Recherche Public - Gabriel Lippmann, Cellule "Statistics & Decision" STADE, 162a, avenue de la Faiencerie, L - 1511 Luxembourg
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MCAD, Multicriteria aid for decisions

Co-ordinator

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Web site

<http://www.inescc.pt/~ewgmcd>

EUROFUSE, Working Group on Fuzzy sets

Co-ordinators

EUROFUSE has two coordinators, expressing the desire to have a representation from both Western and Eastern Europe. Either one of them can be contacted concerning membership, proposals for activities, etc.

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ORAHs, OR Applied to Health Services

Co-ordinator

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Web site

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EUROBANKING, special interest group in banking

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EWGLA, Locational analysis

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ESIGMA, Special interest group on multicriteria analysis

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Financial modelling

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ECCO, European Chapter on Combinatorial Optimisation

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Transportation

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Group Decision and Negotiation Support

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MODEST, Modelling of economies and societies in transition

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WATT, Working group on automated time tabling

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PAREO, Parallel processing in operation research

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DEAPM, Data envelopment analysis and performance measurement

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DDM Distributed Decision Making (formerly HOP, Hierarchical organisational planning)

Co-ordinators

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**Euro Working Group
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**COWG Euro Working group on
 Continuous Optimization**

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The European Journal of Operational Research (EJOR)

At the first Council Meeting held on 30 January 1975, a European Journal of Operational Research (EJOR) was proposed. A committee (G. Kreweras, B. Roy, C.B. Tilanus, and H.-J. Zimmermann) was formed to investigate the desirability of such a venture. Following their recommendations, the Council decided on 8 May 1975 that EJOR should be launched. All member societies were requested to nominate candidates for the editorial board. The publisher was North-Holland, which then changed to Elsevier Science Publishers, and the first editors were Alan Mercer, Bernhard Tilanus and Hans-Jurgen Zimmermann. After 20 years of very successful growth of the journal, these editors have resigned and were replaced since 1st January 1999 by Roman Slowinski, Jacques Teghem and Jyrki Wallenius. The EURO Bulletin vol. 8, no. 4, 1999 is devoted to the present editorial policy of EJOR. The journal is also present on the Web at: www.elsevier.nl/locate/dsw.

The first volume of EJOR appeared in 1977. It consisted of six issues published bimonthly and totalling 420 pages. EJOR has ever since experi-

enced a remarkable growth. Two volumes were published in 1980 in 12 monthly issues; eight volumes totalling over 5300 pages were published in 1999, thus making EJOR the largest OR journal worldwide.

Most issues since 1981 are led by an Invited Review. Thus, by mid-2000, over 270 invited reviews covering a wide range of topics of interest of operational researchers had been published. In addition to the invited reviews and regular papers, EJOR includes book reviews.

Over the years, about 120 feature issues of EJOR have appeared. Guest-edited feature issues have been generated by several EURO instruments, notably the EURO-k conferences, the Mini EURO conferences, the EURO Summer Institutes and the EURO Working Groups.

Until 1990, the surplus made at the EURO-k conferences was EURO's sole source of income. Due to an agreement with Elsevier, EURO has since received royalties from Elsevier that provide a substantial fund for financing the many EURO instruments.

The EURO Bulletin

In order to improve communication between operational researchers in Europe, it was decided in 1975 at EURO I to publish a newsletter: the EURO Bulletin. This Bulletin not only gives relevant information about current EURO activities but also includes announcements of other conferences, meetings etc. of interest to its readers.

The first five issues were edited by J.P. Brans as a leaflet sent to more than 10.000 members of the national OR societies in Europe. Throughout the period 1976-1991, the EURO Bulletin appeared as an appendix to EJOR. Former editors of the Bulletin were: 1975-1980: J.P. Brans (B), 1980-1985: S. Kruse Jacobsen (DK), 1986-1990: M. Despontin (B).

A new format was introduced in the second half of 1991, under the editorship of Ph. Van Asbroeck, 108 avenue Sleenckx, B-1030 Brussels, Belgium (fax: 32 2 650 59 70, e-mail: euro@ulb.ac.be), allowing a quicker circulation of information and a larger diffusion.

A hardcopy version of the EURO Bulletin is now distributed four times a year through the national OR societies. An electronic version in PDF format is also made available on WWW at the following address: http://www.ulb.ac.be/euro/euro_welcome.html

The EURO Summer and Winter Institutes

The series of EURO Summer and Winter Institutes (ESWIs) was launched in 1984 at the initiative of J.P. Brans. Scarcely any other EURO instrument has had such impact upon future generations of OR people. Each ESWI, organised by a national society, focuses upon a particular subject. The basic idea is that around 20 young (approximately between 25 and 35 years of age) researchers all having an unpublished paper within the theme announced, can meet for about two weeks, present their material, discuss it with others and with a handful of specially invited senior experts in the field, and finally prepare a paper to be considered for inclusion in a feature issue of EJOR. ESWIs may be approved in any two years.

Disregarding the senior experts, no one else can participate more than once in his or her lifetime. Participation in an ESWI should be regarded as a considerable honour. In other words, the main objective of an ESWI is to give a limited number of carefully selected representatives of the next generation a unique opportunity for establishing a personal network and for addressing an international audience and thus to create new research groups around the topic chosen.

EURO regularly solicits proposals from the national societies to host an ESWI. Proposals are then reviewed by the EURO Council. If approved, EURO provides a substantial contribution towards all expenses (room and board, social programme, etc.) "on location"; the rest is supposed to be provided by the host society itself or by gifts solicited by the host society. The travel costs, however, must be covered by the participants themselves unless support can be obtained, for example from their national societies. Guidelines for the organisation of ESWI are available upon request from the Secretary of EURO.

Each ESWI is announced in the EURO Bulletin, OR/MS TODAY and similar newsletters or journals. Applications are channelled to EURO via the national societies and the final selection of participants is made by the Scientific Committee on the basis of submitted papers.

The list of ESWI follows.

Year: 1984

Name: ESI I
Date: July 1984
Location: Brussels
Country: Belgium
Theme: Location Theory
Organiser(s): J.P. Brans (B)

Year: 1985

Name: ESI II
Date: July 1985
Location: Brussels
Country: Belgium
Theme: Multicriteria Analysis
Organiser(s): J.P. Brans (B)

Year: 1986

Name: ESI III
Date: June 1986
Location: Canterbury
Country: UK
Theme: Decision-making in an Uncertain World
Organiser(s): V. Belton (UK)

Year: 1987

Name: ESI IV
Date: June 1987
Location: Turku
Country: Finland
Theme: Systems Science
Organiser(s): C. Carlsson (SF)

Year: 1988

Name: ESI V
Date: June 1988
Location: Eindhoven
Country: Netherlands
Theme: Production Planning and Control
Organiser(s): M. de Kok (NL)

Year: 1989

Name: ESI VI
 Date: June 1989
 Location: Funchal
 Country: Portugal
 Theme: Decision Support Systems
 Organiser(s): J. Paixo (P)

Year: 1991

Name: ESI VII
 Date: June 1991
 Location: Cetraro
 Country: Italy
 Theme: Urban Traffic Management
 Organiser(s): M. Bielli (I)

Year: 1992

Name: ESI VIII
 Date: June 1992
 Location: Rosersberg
 Country: Sweden
 Theme: Risk Management in Complex Production
 and Transportation Systems
 Organiser(s): S.E. Anderson (SW)

Year: 1993

Name: ESI IX
 Date: July 1993
 Location: Mannheim
 Country: Germany
 Theme: Hierarchical Planning
 Organiser(s): C. Schneeweiss (D)

Year: 1994

Name: ESI X
 Date: July 1994
 Location: Jouy-en-Josas
 Country: France
 Theme: Combinatorial Optimisation
 Organiser(s): C. Roucairol, H. Thiriez (F)

Year: 1995

Name: ESI XI
 Date: April 1995
 Location: Salford
 Country: UK
 Theme: Maintenance, Replacement and Reliability
 Modelling
 Organiser(s): A.H. Christer (UK)

Year: 1995

Name: ESI XII
 Date: June 1995
 Location: Canary Islands
 Country: Spain
 Theme: Location Analysis
 Organiser(s): J. Barcelo, J. Moreno (SP)

Year: 1996

Name: ESI XIII
 Date: January 1996
 Location: Semmering
 Country: Austria
 Theme: Stochastic Optimisation
 Organiser(s): G. Pflug (Aus.)

Year: 1996

Name: ESI XIV
 Date: June 1996
 Location: Piraeus
 Country: Greece
 Theme: Environmental planning
 Organiser(s): C. Pappis (Gr)

Year: 1997

Name: ESI XV
 Date: September 1997
 Location: St. Vincent, Aosta Valley
 Country: Italy
 Theme: Production scheduling, deterministic
 stochastic and fuzzy approaches
 Organiser(s): R. Tadei (I)

Year: 1998

Name: ESI XVI
 Date: August 1998
 Location: Warwick University
 Country: UK
 Theme: Performance measurement (DEA)
 Organiser(s): C.S. Sarrico (UK)

Year: 2000

Name: EWI XVIII
 Date: March 2000
 Location: Lac Noir
 Country: Switzerland
 Theme: Metaheuristic and combinatorial optimisation
 Organiser(s): M. Widmer (CH)

Some of the ESWI held to date have led to the publication of a feature issue of EJOR.

The Mini EURO Conferences

Organising a Mini EURO Conference

In addition to the large EURO-k conferences, considering all possible OR-subjects and as a supplement to the established EURO Working Groups, EURO initiated in 1984 the concept of Mini EURO Conference. Its objective is to assemble a limited number of specialists around a specific theme.

Any member of any member society of EURO can make a proposal for organising a Mini EURO conference. Guidelines are available from the Secretary of EURO or from vice-president 2. These proposals have to be approved by the EURO Executive Committee.

Mini EURO conferences should be open to specialists representing the entire OR community and not only address the organiser's "domestic market". In case a proposal is approved by the Executive Committee, EURO will grant a loan to the organisers. Its purpose is to help the organisers in printing and distributing a Call for Papers to all members of the National Societies and an invitation Programme to all those interested.

Up to now 10 such Mini EURO conferences have been organised, the last one by J.P. Barthélemy on "Human Centered Processes" in Brest (France) in September 1999.

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Past Mini EURO Conferences

Year: 1984

Name: MEC I
Date: June-84
Location: Bruges
Country: Belgium
Organiser(s): P. Allen (B)
Theme: Management and Modelling of Dynamic Systems
Feature Issue: EJOR 25/1, 1986
Editor(s): P.M. Allen

Year: 1985

Name: MEC II
Date: Nov-85
Location: Lunteren
Country: Netherlands
Organiser(s): H. Gelder (NL)
Theme: Experts Systems and Artificial Intelligence in DSS. An OR Interface to Management

Year: 1986

Name: MEC III
Date: June-87
Location: Herceg Novi
Country: Yugoslavia
Organiser(s): S. Guberinic (Yu)
Theme: Operations Research Methods in Transport Planning and Traffic Control

Year: 1987

Name: MEC IV
Date: Nov-88
Location: Warwick
Country: UK
Organiser(s): V. Belton (UK)
Theme: Visual Interactive Modelling
Feature Issue: EJOR 54/3, 1991
Editor(s): V. Belton, M. Elder

Year: 1993

Name: MEC V
Date: Oct-93
Location: Thessaloniki
Country: Greece
Organiser(s): V. Papathanassiou (Gr.)
Theme: Managing Business Opportunities in the Changing Balkan Markets

Year: 1994

Name: MEC VI
Date: Jan-94
Location: Liège
Country: Belgium
Organiser(s): G. Colson (B)
Theme: Risk Management

Year: 1995

Name: MEC VIII
Date: Oct-95
Location: Thessaloniki
Country: Greece
Organiser(s): V. Papathanassiou (Gr.)
Theme: 3rd Balkan Conference on Operational Research

Year: 1997

Name: MEC VII
Date: Mar-97
Location: Bruges
Country: Belgium
Organiser(s): J.-P Brans (B)
Theme: Decision Support Systems, Goupware, Multimedia, Electronic Commerce

Year: 1997

Name: MEC IX
Date: Sep-97
Location: Budva
Country: Montenegro (Yugoslavia)
Organiser(s): D. Teodorovic (Y)
Theme: Fuzzy Sets in Traffic and Transport Systems

Year: 1999

Name: MEC XI
Date: Aug-99
Location: Helsinki
Country: Finland
Organiser(s): M. Pursula (FIN)
Theme: Artificial Intelligence in Transportation Systems and Science

Year: 1999

Name: MEC X
Date: Sep-99
Location: Brest
Country: France
Organiser(s): J.-P. Barthélemy (F)
Theme: Human Centered Processes

The EURO Gold Medal

The EURO Gold Medal, the highest distinction within OR in Europe, is conferred to a prominent person or a prominent institution, either for a remarkable role played in the promotion of OR in Europe or for an outstanding contribution to the OR science. The Award, which officially is bestowed in conjunction with a EURO-k conference, is not only a significant honour for the Laureate personally, but also important for the general promotion of OR as leading scholars and their contributions are made better known via the Medal. Laureates of the EURO Gold Medal are invited to all future EURO-k conferences without payment of the registration fees.

Nominations of candidates are solicited from the national societies in the year prior to each EURO-k conference. To emphasise the European flavour of the Award, all societies are strongly urged not to propose a candidate from their own country. The nominations are then passed to a special jury of "Five Wise Persons" appointed by EURO.

The decision of the jury decision is publicly announced at the Opening Session of the next EURO-k conference. Following a presentation of the competition by the chairman of the jury, the Laureate is invited to give a lecture.

The list of EURO Gold Medals that have already been conferred follows.

- 1985: H.J. Zimmermann (D)
- 1986: P. Hansen (B), A.H.G.Rinnooy Kan (NL)
- 1988: E.M.L. Beale (GB) (posthumously)
- 1989: C. Berge (F)
- 1991: J. Blazewicz (PL), R. Slowinski (PL), J. Weglarz (PL)
- 1992: B. Roy (F)
- 1994: J.P. Brans (B), L. Wolsey (B)
- 1995: D. de Werra (CH)
- 1997: R.E. Burkard (A), J.K. Lenstra (NL)
- 1998: P. Toth (I)

Other EURO Instruments

General Support

An annual budget up to CHF 15000 is available in response to bids from organs of EURO or organisers of EURO sponsored events for support for actions in a EURO context not covered by other

instruments. Competitive bids may be made during each 6-month period. A deadline for submission of bids is announced twice a year by the Secretary of EURO.

Other Activities of EURO

EURO Prize for the Best Applied Paper

Since 1995, EURO-k conferences are marked by the competition for the "EURO Prize for the best applied paper". All interested authors are invited to submit papers describing an application of Operational Research which has original features, whether in methodology, application or implementation.

The purposes of the competition are:

- to recognise outstanding accomplishments in the practice of Operational Research,
- to attract more application-oriented papers to EURO Conferences,
- to promote the practice of Operational Research in general.

The winner of the Prize is determined by a jury after the presentation of the papers in a special session. The winner of the Prize is announced by the chair of the jury during the closing session of the EURO-k conference. The EURO Prize for the best applied paper should be considered as a considerable honour. The Prize in itself will consist of an ad-hoc certificate and the exemption of fees for the next three EURO Conferences.

The winners of the best applied paper prize were:

1995 EURO XIV

"ÒAMOS - a probability-driven, customer-oriented decision support system for target marketing of solo mailings" by Nissan Levin, Jacob Zahavi and Morris Olitsky.

1997 EURO XV

"HOP: A Software Tool for Production Scheduling at Bridgestone/Firestone Off-The-Road" by Zeger Degraeve and Linus Schrage.

1998 EURO XVI

"Sorting farming systems on the basis of their impact on ground water quality" by Cécile Arondel and Philippe Girardin.

A EURO Thesaurus of OR research units

The thesaurus aims to spot active OR research units from EURO-k conferences. The thesaurus is available on the EURO web site at: <http://www.ulb.ac.be/euro> and a CD-ROM has been distributed in August 1999 at the IFORS 15 conference, allowing to consult the database and to print hard copies from Postscript and PDF files. In order to consolidate the data base continuously, it is asked to everybody to check his own data and to make any comments to the EURO Office at euro@ulb.ac.be

The rough material used as starting point is the databases of the three last EURO conferences, i.e.: EURO XIV 1995, EURO XV 1997 and EURO XVI 1998. The lists of topics defining the subjects of the papers were different for each conference. Their consistency have been improved within the framework of the classification of International abstracts in OR.

Each OR research unit is characterised by the following items: country; city; designation; composition (i.e. the name of its members with their e-mails if any, and the EURO conference where they presented a paper); topics defining their specific research fields.

Knowing places where OR research units are active, one of the incentives behind this thesaurus is to contact these units in order to consolidate the database on OR courses in Europe initiated by Professor C. Pappis. On the other hand, this thesaurus may also be considered as a tool to promote links between research units.

Co-operation with Other Bodies

IFORS

As one of the regional groupings of IFORS, EURO actively participates in the activities of IFORS. Since 1987, EURO appoints a EURO Vice-President of IFORS for a three-year period. This position was successively held by Jean-Pierre Brans (1989-1991), Jacob Krarup (1992-1994), Rainer Burkard (1995-1997) and by Dominique de Werra (1998-2000). The EURO Vice-President of IFORS reports each year to the EURO Council.

Furthermore, exchanges of young researchers between EURO and IFORS are carried out and work both ways: young researchers from Developing countries going to EURO Summer/Winter Institute (ESWI) and young European researchers going to IFORS institutes in developing countries.

ALIO

ALIO (Asociacion Latino-Ibero-Americana de Investigacion Operativa) is one of the four regional groupings of IFORS. An ALIO-EURO Workshop on Practical Combinatorial Optimisation was organised by N. Maculan, F. Maffioli, F. Malucelli, P. Toth and A. Weintraub at Erice (Sicily, Italy), 2-7 November 1999.

Proposals for similar ventures are hereby invited.

