

# Bulletin

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Special issue devoted to EURO-k conferences and to  
EURO Summer Institutes

Edited by Zilla Sinuany-Stern and Philippe Van Asbroeck

The new EURO web site is available since a few days at <http://www.euro-online.org/>

## Some reflections about the EURO-Conferences

During the EURO 2001 Conference, in Rotterdam, a discussion was organised with the members of the Council, the presidents of the national societies and the chairmen of the working groups about the possible improvements that could be proposed for the organisation of the next EURO-Conferences. The discussion was introduced by a panel constituted of Z. Sinuany (Israël), M. Salomon (The Netherlands), D. Bouyssou (France) and L. Van Wassenhove (Chairman of the programme committee of EURO 2001). Here are the main reflections that were presented during this interesting and friendly discussion.

- There is a general consensus on the fact that the EURO-Conferences give, first of all, opportunities to establish and maintain scientific contacts, to be informed about the development of the various chapters of O.R., and to contribute to the strengthening of the relations between the researchers of different European countries. A first consequence is that these conferences should be as open as possible. This means that the selection of the papers should not be too severe (as the participation to a conference is generally conditioned by the presentation of a paper in order to be financially supported), with the risk of some papers being low in quality, of very low attendance at some sessions and of an increasing number of no shows due to the feeling that these conferences are not very serious. Several suggestions were made to minimize these inconveniences: acceptance of maximum one paper by author, obligation to pay the registration fee to be present in the scientific programme, organisation of poster sessions in order to reduce the number of parallel sessions and to increase the attendance at each of them, rejection of abstracts which are too general or vague.
- A second consequence of the will to open the EURO-Conferences to a maximum of researchers is that the costs should not discourage potential participants. In particular, the participation to EURO-Conferences should be possible (and even easy) for young researchers and for colleagues from poorer countries. Hotels with low prices should be available and some expensive social activities should not be included in the registration fees. The organizers of EURO 2003 (Istanbul) and EURO 2004 (Rhodes) were invited to be particularly careful on this aspect.
- The innovations proposed by the organisers of EURO 2001 (company visits and business sessions) were highly appreciated. However, the general feeling is that this initiative could not easily be repeated in all the countries (with the exception of U.K. where practitioners were always strongly involved in O.R.). The difficult problem of how to attract practitioners into the EURO-Conferences was discussed. It is clear that most of the practitioners are not interested by academic sessions. Other types of activities should be proposed for them: meetings with colleagues of the same industrial sector, presentation of new software, possibility to present their projects to the press, possibility to recruit young people, possibility to present open problems and to establish collaborations with universities, ... It is probably difficult to mix these activities with more academic ones. So, what about a "EURO industrial day" just after the EURO-Conference ? Your opinion is welcome.
- Some participants expressed the opinion that EURO-Conferences should be an opportunity to establish contacts with some other fields which use similar techniques (like computer sciences) or

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which use (or could use) O.R. tools (like life sciences). This could be carried out by inviting prominent speakers from other fields in semi-plenary sessions or by organizing interdisciplinary sessions.

■ From a logistic point of view, it was mentioned that much time and energy could be saved if a vade mecum and a software were available for the organizers of EURO-Conferences.

■ About the awards that are delivered during the EURO-Conferences, three main suggestions were made during the discussion:

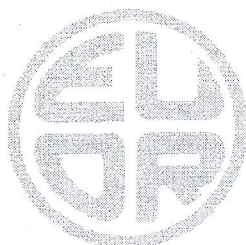
- to increase the amount of the Excellence in Practice Award and to find some sponsorship for it;
- to accept, for the EURO Gold Medal, that countries propose some of their own people (this is forbidden in the present rules);
- to create some awards for young people (example: award for the best dissertation).

■ Finally, it was also suggested to make an inquiry into the opinion of the participants to EURO-Conferences and into the reasons for which O.R. researchers are not interested in such events. The new EURO Web Site should allow us to organize an e-discussion about these questions.

In conclusion, EURO-Conferences are one of the instruments proposed by EURO to improve and promote O.R. activities in Europe. It certainly provides for some wants (as illustrated by the number of participants) and must be seen as complementary to the Working Groups, the Summer and Winter Institutes and the mini-Conferences. However, improvements are always possible and the discussion of Rotterdam led to some very interesting tracks.

**Ph. Vincke**

President of EURO



The new EURO web site is available since a few days at <http://www.euro-online.org/>

## President's message

# Some good news for you !

As you know, it was decided, during the last EURO Conference in Budapest, to develop a professional tool to improve communication within EURO, between the national societies, between the working groups and, mainly, between the people.

I have great pleasure to announce that this tool does indeed exist.

As of October 2001, every European researcher in O.R. should have the Euro Web Site as their homepage, and should consult it every morning.

Here are some elements which will be available on this site, as a complement to the usual information about the EURO Conferences, mini-conferences, summer and winter institutes, awards, and other important events in OR.

- Each National Society will have the possibility to maintain and update its own page.
- Each Working Group will have the same service.
- Each individual will, if he wants to, be registered on the site and have access to the following functions:
  - electronic version of the bulletin,
  - chat room to discuss OR problems,
  - information about OR studies in Europe,
  - lecture-notes, tutorials, surveys,
  - solved exercises,
  - questions and answers for the students,
  - proposals for scientific collaborations,
  - job offers and demands,
  - a search engine dedicated to OR.

We are convinced that the EURO Web Site will be a significant step towards the creation of a strong and stimulating European Space of Research in OR. Please inform your students and colleagues!

Here is, briefly, some other good news:

- Each year, EURO will offer some grants to young researchers who want to participate in Working Groups meetings.
- The first Management Science Strategic Innovation Prize (MSSIP), sponsored by SAP, will be discerned in 2003 for a contribution in "Market Coordination in Supply Chain Management". For 2004, the chosen theme is "Performance criteria and benchmarking methods". The amount of the prize is around 12.000 EUROS.
- If you are member of a national society within EURO, you can receive the electronic version of EJOR for very interesting conditions.
- In co-ordination with IFORS, a special budget will be devoted to support the creation of national or transnational societies in Africa.
- Next September, EURO will have a permanent secretariat in Brussels.
- A lot of activities are scheduled for the next few months.

If you want more information about any of these points, go to: <http://www.euro-online.org/>

**Ph. Vincke**

President of EURO

# EURO 2001 - An OR Odyssey

**This report is on the "EURO 2001" conference, the eighteenth conference of the Association of European Operational Research Societies, which was being held on July 9-11, 2001 in Rotterdam, The Netherlands, at the Erasmus University.**

The organizing committee can look back at the EURO 2001 conference with a lot of satisfaction. It turned out that the participants were satisfied with the events, and that new initiatives, such as company visits and invited company sessions, were appreciated. The professional conference organizer did an excellent job helping people out with practical matters.

On Sunday afternoon, a nice and informal atmosphere during the welcome cocktail started it all. A number of participants took the opportunity to write some first e-mail messages, using one of the colorful i-Macs available.

The opening plenary session on Monday morning showed the diversity of the present OR-community in Europe. After words by the rector from the Erasmus University, prof. dr. ir. J.H. van Bommel, and the president of EURO, Philippe Vincke, the gold medallist Egon Balas reflected on his important mathematical contribution to OR. Emile Aarts, representing Philips Research Laboratories, gave an impression of "ambient intelligence" in our

future home and working environment, and the role of OR therein.

On each day of the conference, a semi-plenary session was organized. Prominent speakers both from academics and industry spoke about new developments and applications of OR. The initiative of the organizing committee to invite speakers from companies to discuss the use of OR in practice resulted in interesting contributions.

Coffee and lunch was being served in our general-purpose room, featuring an interesting exhibition by major publishers, computer software and hardware companies, and consultants. In this room, also the I-Macs were situated.

In the afternoon, parallel sessions were organized. Students in orange T-shirts helped out any participant who could not find his or her way. The company visits that were organized simultaneously, gave people the opportunity to visit a session at a company (TNT Post Group, Heineken, Netherlands Railways, Europe Combined Terminals, Connekt OLS, Yamaha) and experience on-site logistics operations. It turned out that all participants of these events believed it to be a success and hoped that coming EURO conferences would also feature such events. In the table below, some facts concerning these company visits are given. Participants were asked to rate the visits on a scale from 0 to 5.

Name Company	Interesting (scale 0-5)	Academic Level (scale 0-5)	# Participants
Yamaha	4.3	3.9	17
Heineken	5.0	4.0	22
Europe Combined Terminals	4.6	4.6	27
Dutch Railways	4.7	4.5	27
TNT Post Group	4.5	4.5	22
Connekt OLS	5.0	4.5	7

Facts on Company Visits.

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In a nice soccer stadium of Rotterdam, which resembles a medieval castle, and therefore bears the name "Het Kasteel", people enjoyed on Monday evening words by the mayor of Rotterdam and, among other dishes, raw herring.

Tuesday featured many parallel sessions. An experiment with beamers (available for free) showed that quite a few participants are interested in using this equipment. Unfortunately, this equipment is

still extremely expensive and this prohibits use on a larger scale.

The program committee had asked companies to organize a number of parallel sessions. Of course, the scientific content of these sessions must be comparable with academic sessions, but the focus was here more on applications at the company than on methods. These business sessions were appreciated, as the following table shows.

Name Company	Interesting (scale 0-5)	Academic Level (scale 0-5)
ABN AMRO	4.3	3.6
CQM	4.4	3.4
GTS	4.4	4.0
IBM	3.9	3.6
Incontrol	4.1	3.2
KLM	3.9	3.6
KPN	4.8	4.3
Océ	4.0	4.0
Rabobank	3.3	3.0
SAP	3.9	3.2
Schering	4.0	4.5
Baan	3.5	3.0
ING Bank	4.4	3.9
Shell	4.6	4.1
TNO-FEL	4.6	4.2

Facts on Business Sessions.

Probably the most spectacular event during the conference was the conference dinner. Besides the excellent meal, the sight of 600 OR specialists in orange T-shirts, singing the song "OR Forever", was something never to forget. For those who did not believe in magic after this took place, a visiting magician to the table could be persuasive.

*I've had my thoughts some of them smart  
I've done my research that is where is my hart  
Sometimes mistakes, I have made a few  
I've made models so nice and that was fun  
So I've enjoyed  
And I want to go on and on and on and on*

Chorus:

*O.R. for ever, my friend  
We will do research to the end  
O.R. for ever*

*O.R. for ever  
Beautiful models,  
so O.R. forever is the fun*

*I've used my math and analyzed  
The models I loved and enjoyed and  
everything that goes with it  
I thank O.R.*

*But it's not been only glory, no easy cruise  
I consider it a challenge before the whole human race  
And I will survive  
And need to go on and go on and on*

Chorus (2x)

Text of the song "OR Forever" by Jo van Nunen (to the melody of: "We are the Champions" by Freddy Mercury)

The closing session on Wednesday afternoon featured an interesting lecture by Don Ratliff and the EURO Excellence in Practice Award winners Mikael Rönqvist et al. received their price. Finally, Jo van Nunen and Luk Van Wassenhove reflected on the evaluation of "their" conference (see the tables in this report).

All in all, the conference has been a great success. For those who like to see this fact reflected in numbers, we here summarize some important figures on the conference.

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Type of participant	Number
Early Regular	359
Late Regular	128
Early Student	77
Late Student	24
Non Paying	21
Guests (sponsors)	41
<b>Total</b>	<b>650</b>

Type of session	Number
Semi-Plenary	10
Parallel (Business Stream)	17
Parallel (Other Streams)	195

Type of contribution	Number
Semi-Plenary	18
Parallel (Business Stream)	50
Parallel (Other Streams)	519

Important figures  
"EURO 2001" conference.

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## EURO Gold Medal 2001

### DEIS, University of Bologna, Chair, 2001 EURO Gold Medal Jury

The EURO Gold Medal is the most prestigious award a European scholar in the Operational Research area can receive. On behalf of the EURO Gold Medal Jury, I am pleased to provide the report on the 2001 award.

According to the EURO Statute, "The EURO Gold Medal, the highest distinction within Operational Research in Europe, is conferred to a prominent person or a prominent institution, either for a remarkable role played in the promotion of Operational Research in Europe or for an outstanding contribution to the Operational Research science".

The first EURO Gold Medal was delivered to Hans Jurgen Zimmermann at EURO VII (Bologna, June 1985). In the following years, other 14 scholars won the award. The list of the previous EURO Gold Medal laureates follows:

- **1985** H.J. Zimmermann (Germany)
- **1986** P. Hansen (Belgium) and A.H.G. Rinnooy Kan (The Netherlands)
- **1988** E.M.L. Beale (United Kingdom)
- **1989** C. Berge (France)
- **1991** J. Blazewicz, R. Slowinski and J. Weglarz (Poland)
- **1992** B. Roy (France)
- **1994** J.P. Brans (Belgium) and L. Wolsey (Belgium)
- **1995** D. de Werra (Switzerland)
- **1997** R. Burkard (Austria) and J.K. Lenstra (The Netherlands)
- **1998** P. Toth (Italy)

Nominations for the 2001 Gold Medal were solicited from the EURO national societies in the autumn 2000. From the 28 EURO member societies, 17 (i.e. about 60%) nominated a candidate. The number of candidates was 5.

The members of the jury were:

- Jean Pierre Brans, Free University of Brussels
- Rainer Burkard, Technical University of Graz
- Jan Karel Lenstra, Eindhoven University of Technology



- Dominique de Werra, EPF Lausanne
- Jan Weglarz, Poznan University of Technology
- Hans Jurgen Zimmermann, RWTH Aachen

The members of the jury were invited to perform their choices by taking into account, for each candidate:

- the "Scientific Contribution" (based on the relevance of the scientific results, the papers published in top level international journals, the books, the journal editorship, the prizes, the involvement in Operational Research applications, ...)

and

- the "Contribution to the Operational Research Community" (based on the involvement in national and international societies, the organization of conferences and schools, the supervision of Ph.D students, ...)

I sincerely thank all the members of the jury for the time and effort they devoted to the difficult task of evaluating the candidates. The jury provided thoughtful and timely reviews and was a very collegial group. It was very nice to work with them.

The level of all the candidates was excellent and the choice was very difficult. The jury unanimously felt that one candidate was really outstanding and deserving the award. It is really a pleasure for me



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to announce that the 2001 EURO Gold Medal was conferred to Professor Egon Balas (GSIA, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh). The award was delivered during the Opening Session at the EURO XVIII Conference, Rotterdam, July 9 - 11, 2001.

A short summary of the scientific activity of Egon Balas follows. He started his work in Operational Research in Romania. After a career as an economist and a politician, he turned to Linear and Integer Programming. His famous paper on the "additive algorithm for 0-1 Linear Programming" was one of the first basic European contributions to Combinatorial Optimization. After he had left Romania, he obtained a doctoral degree in Economics in Brussels and one in Mathematics in Paris. Ever since, he continued to collaborate with European researchers and to attend the European Operational Research conferences. His most significant contribution is probably his extensive

work on Disjunctive Programming. He was also one of the pioneers in the study of the facial structure of Integer Polytopes for NP-hard combinatorial optimization problems. He has published more than 100 papers in the top level international journals in Operational Research, Management Science and Mathematical Programming. He published papers with more than 50 different co-authors (and I had the honour to be one of them!). He was the winner of the prestigious "John von Neumann Theory Prize" in April 1995.

I wish also to point out that Egon Balas is not only a model for his exceptional research activity, but also a model for his whole life. Indeed, he always fought against all the tyrannies of the last century, and he paid, with long years of hard jail, his love for freedom.

I wish to conclude this short report with few sentences stated by one of the member societies who nominated our laureate: "Egon Balas has been at the forefront of developments in Integer Programming during the last 35 years. His work has been innovative and influential, at the heart of what EURO values: methodological breakthroughs with great impact on the practice of Operational Research. To summarize, Egon Balas has been one of the most creative contributors to Integer Programming and a very active participant in European Operational Research. And he still is! Let us thank him by awarding the EURO Gold Medal 2001."

**Paolo Toth**



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## The EURO Award 2001 for Excellence in Practice

The EURO Award for Excellence in Practice continues the tradition of the former "Best Applied Paper Award". The new name puts more emphasis on the success of Operations Research in practice than the more academic aspect of a "paper". Besides, the EURO committee has decided on the following modifications of the conditions:

- The appreciation of the presented work by the organisation where it has been applied, is an important criterion for evaluating the submitted papers. It can be proved by a letter of support.
- The award is conferred to both the author(s) of the paper and the organization.
- The endowments are raised to 5.000 CHF.

The first award following the new conditions has been conferred at the EURO XVIII conference in Rotterdam 2001. The call for papers, published in the EURO Bulletin and by the national societies, attracted a positive response: Eight papers from six countries were submitted, all satisfying the strict requirement of presenting a real OR application in practice.

The jury, consisting of Martine Labbé (Belgium), Silvano Martello (Italy), Paul Stähly (Switzerland), Steef van de Velde (Netherlands) and Bernhard Fleischmann (Germany, chairman), evaluated the submitted papers according to the criteria:

- scientific quality
- relevance to OR
- originality w.r.t. methods, implementation and field of application
- impact on practice
- appreciation by the organisation.

The following three papers were selected as finalists and invited to be presented at the conference:

- D. Bredström, J.T. Lundgren, A. Mason, M. Rönnquist (Linköping Institute of Technology) "Supply Chain Optimisation in the Pulp Mill Industry" (work at Södra Cell AB, Sweden)

- Z. Degraeve (London Business School), E. Labro (London School of Economics), F. Roodhooft (KU Leuven)

"Total Cost of Ownership Purchasing a Service: The Case of Airline Selection"  
(work at Alcatel Bell, Belgium)

- B. Jansen, P. Swinkels, G. Teeuwen (Center of Quantitative Methods, Eindhoven) "Operational Planning of a Large-Scale Multi-Modal Transportation System"  
(work at Danzas Euronet GmbH, Germany).

The three papers, which reflect the wide range of fields of application of OR, will be published together in EJOR.

After the presentation of the papers in a special session of the EURO XVIII, the jury decided to confer the award to

D. Bredström, J.T. Lundgren, A. Mason, M. Rönnquist and Södra Cell AB, Sweden

The jury was impressed by the comprehensive view of the supply chain - from the forests through pulp mill manufacturing up to the distribution by sea - the advanced models and algorithms used - mixed integer programming and column generation - and the impact to practice, stressed by a letter of the Logistics Manager of Södra Cell AB, D. Carlsson, who himself gave a part of the presentation.

The next Excellence in Practice award will be conferred at the EURO XIX conference in Istanbul 2003.

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# IFORS 2002

The sixteenth triennial conference of the International Federation of Operational Research Societies, hosted by the United Kingdom Operational Research Society, will be a historic occasion - the first IFORS conference of the new millennium and a return by IFORS to the United Kingdom, the country that hosted the first IFORS conference and was the originator of OR as we know it. With the theme of "OR in a globalised, networked world economy", this conference will be at the cutting edge of research. It will not only discuss some of the problems of the new economy but also use new technology - you will be able to submit a paper and book on the web. Programme details and other information about the conference will also be provided via the web. The conference will be held in the beautiful city of Edinburgh, the historic capital of Scotland.

## Programme

There will be plenary sessions, tutorial sessions and streams of invited and contributed papers. These streams will include data mining, knowledge management, information systems, information technology, OR in developing economies, community development and capacity building, electronic commerce, technology foresight and development, supply chain management, marketing models, education, environmental management, forestry, transportation, electricity markets, decision analysis and military applications, health care, social problems, OR and strategy, OR in process industries, OR consultancy, managing international projects, enterprise resource planning systems, metaheuristics, tabu search, mathematical programming, scheduling and timetabling, vehicle routing, cutting and packing problems, network design, telecommunications network planning, DEA, multi-criteria decision making, financial planning and OR, credit and risk management, financial and economic models, ethics, simulation, system dynamics, decision analysis and behavioural decision theory, and the history of OR.

## Contributed papers

All members of the international OR community are cordially encouraged to contribute papers under the above or other topic headings.

## Abstract submission

Deadline for submission: **15 December 2001**. All abstracts, whether of submitted or invited papers or national contributions, should be sent via the electronic form at [www.ifors2002.org](http://www.ifors2002.org). (In rare instances we will accept hard copy.) Abstracts must be written in English and typed with single line spacing. No formulas, symbols, mathematical notation or sub/superscripts are allowed. All the text must fit into the space provided in the submission form with a maximum 50 words. No abstract fee is required. All withdrawals should be sent to [blev@umich.edu](mailto:blev@umich.edu).

All attendees, including speakers and session chairs, must register and pay the appropriate registration fee. If you need an early confirmation for travel visas or budgetary reasons, please indicate on the submission form.

## Important dates

Deadline for abstract submission 15 December, 2001

Deadline for early registration 15 March, 2002

Authors' registration deadline to be included in the printed programme 1 May, 2002

Conference 8-12 July, 2002

## Language

The official language of the Conference will be English.

## Publications

Selected papers will appear in ITOR. Luis Tavares is the special issue editor for ITOR. For details please contact [lavt@alfa.ist.ud.pt](mailto:lavt@alfa.ist.ud.pt).

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## The IFORS prize for or in development

IFORS is pleased to continue the tradition of the IFORS Prize for OR in Development to be awarded at the close of the 2002 IFORS Triennial Conference. A grand prize of US\$ 2,000 and a runner-up of US\$ 1,000 are offered. For details of the competition refer to [www.ifors2002.org](http://www.ifors2002.org), or contact Prof Goutam Dutta, Chair IFORS-2002 OR for Development Prize, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad 380015, India. E-mail: [goutain@iimahd.ernet.in](mailto:goutain@iimahd.ernet.in). Phone: 91-79-6307241 Ext. 4828 (O) 5016 (H). Fax: 91-79-630 6896. Please note that all entrants must meet the deadlines for submission of abstracts and registration.

## Social programme

A comprehensive social programme is being planned, including:

- Sunday 7th July, evening: Welcome reception. Meet up with old and new friends.
- Monday 8th July, evening: Bar quiz. Test your general knowledge in a friendly environment.
- Tuesday 9th July, evening: Scottish dancing with a ceillidh band.
- Wednesday 10th July, morning & afternoon: Excursion (packed lunch provided).
- Thursday 11th July, evening: Banquet with drinks and music at Murrayfield, home of Scottish rugby.

The cost of all these items is included in the registration fee.

## Value added tax recovery

IFORS 2002 delegates from outside the UK may be able to recover UK Value Added Tax (VAT), currently charged at 17.5 %, on many of their costs, including registration fees, accommodation, meals and car hire. The UK VAT laws permit 'commercially active bodies' to recover VAT provided they are tax registered in their own country. Claims are usually successful if made by the respective company, university or institute on behalf of the individual. In the USA, the IRS may issue suitable tax certificates to individuals.

Provisional arrangements have been made with a company that is willing to provide VAT recovery services to IFORS 2002 delegates on a 'no recovery, no fee' basis. Their charge is 15% of the

recovered amount. Delegates wishing to claim will need to complete a form which will be available at the conference, and to submit all their VAT receipts and invoices. Any refund will be payable to the tax registered party, which will normally be a company or university. The VAT element of the standard early registration fee is £45.15.

## Accommodation

There is a wide range of accommodation, typical per-night tax-inclusive prices being in the region of £30 for a single student room with hand basin and shared shower and toilet facilities; £45 for a single student room with full ensuite facilities; £50 for a double suite motel-type room; and up to £120 per person for a 4-star hotel room with ensuite facilities\* (NB: \* denotes Scottish breakfast included). To receive booking & general information on accommodation fill out the enquiry form at [www.clansman.com/ifors-mail](http://www.clansman.com/ifors-mail). For the cheapest rates you are advised to book as soon as possible after July 2001.

## Personnel

Programme Committee chair: Ben Lev.  
Email: [blev@umich.edu](mailto:blev@umich.edu).

Organising Committee chair: Lyn Thomas.  
Email: [1.thomas@soton.ac.uk](mailto:1.thomas@soton.ac.uk).

Conference Secretariat: Chris Barrett, OR Society,  
[barrett@orsoc.org.uk](mailto:barrett@orsoc.org.uk). Tel: +44(0) 121233 9300,  
Fax: +44 (0) 121 233 0321.

## Registration

To register for the conference, please complete the online form at [www.ifors2002.org](http://www.ifors2002.org).

This is a secure e-commerce facility. The early and late registration fees include attendance at all conference sessions and social events, a subscription to ITOR and coffee and tea in mid-session breaks. The student registration fee includes attendance at all conference sessions, social events other than the excursion and banquet, and coffee and tea in mid-session breaks. The accompanying person's fee includes all social events. Upon receipt of payment, a receipted VAT invoice will be issued. Bookings are subject to the standard ORS terms and conditions.

For details, see [www.orsoc.org.uk](http://www.orsoc.org.uk).

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# REGISTRATION FORM

Please book online if possible. Alternatively you may use this form. If booking for more than one person, please copy the form and submit one per person.

**Note:** (1) All prices are in Sterling (GBP). (2) The quoted prices are guaranteed for bookings received and paid before 31st December 2001. (3) The prices include Value Added Tax, which must be paid, but which may be recoverable in many cases (see above).

Family name.....Other names.....

Full postal address.....

Postcode / zip code.....

Telephone.....Fax.....

E-mail.....

Special dietary or physical requirements.....

If presenting, give your IFORS 2002 ID (supplied on submission of abstract).....

## Excursion

(Please indicate your preference order by entering 1, 2, 3. Note that numbers on each are limited and we cannot guarantee your first choice.)

- Glenturret Distillery, Stirling and Stirling Castle.
- Blair Athol Distillery, Blair Castle & House of Bruar
- Falkland Palace, St Andrews & Glamis Castle.

## Tick ONE

- Early registration\* £357.15
- Late registration £441.75
- Student registration\*\* £148.05
- Accompanying person's programme £105.75

**Payment:** Note that bookings must be accompanied by full payment in Sterling (GBP).

Please debit Visa / Mastercard No.....

Expiry date...../.....

Amount to debit £.....Signed.....

Payment may alternatively be made by Sterling cheque drawn on a UK bank (your bank can supply such a cheque) or by Sterling Eurocheque. Your cheque must accompany this form.

Completed forms are to be sent to: Mrs Chris Barrett, Operational Research Society, 12 Edward Street, Birmingham B1 2RX, UK - Fax +44 (0) 121 233 0321.

\* Applies only to bookings made and paid before 15 March 2002.  
 \*\* Applications for the student rate must be accompanied by a letter on University notepaper, signed by a professor or tutor, certifying that the registrant is a full-time student.

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# Stream

## Complex Societal Problems

### OR in a globalized, networked world economy

Dorien J. DeTombe  
Chair Session Stream Complex Societal Problems

**Call for Invited Papers & Participation**  
**IFORS 2002 Operational Research Conference**  
**8-12 July 2002 Edinburgh**

Euro Working Group Complex Societal Problems cordially invites you  
to join the conference by presenting a paper on the subject on

**Complex societal problems**

**Deadline abstract: 15 December 2001**

Send abstract by E-Mail: DeTombe + Conference Secretariat  
Keywords: Complex Societal Problem

Corresponding address:  
Dr. Dorien J. DeTombe  
Chair Euro Working Group Complex Societal Problems  
E-Mail: [DeTombe@lri.jur.uva.nl](mailto:DeTombe@lri.jur.uva.nl)  
<http://www.geocities.com/doriendetombe/>

P.O. Box. 3286, 1001 AB Amsterdam, The Netherlands, Europe  
Tel: +31 20 6927526

Conference Secretariat: <http://www.ifors2002.org>  
E-Mail: [lfors2002@orsoc.org.uk](mailto:lfors2002@orsoc.org.uk)

See for more information on the subject of Complex Societal Problems:  
<http://www.geocities.com/doriendetombe/>

# Istanbul 2003

## Joint EURO/INFORMS Conference

### July 6-10, 2003

The new EURO web site is available  
since a few days at  
<http://www.euro-online.org/>

#### Invitation to Istanbul 2003

You are invited to come to Istanbul for the first EURO/INFORMS joint international meeting of the millenium to meet renowned scholars and practitioners from all over the world where East meets the West. Over the course of history, Istanbul was the seat of three great empires - Roman, Byzantine and Ottoman - and a meeting place of peoples of many religions and cultures who came together and learned to live in peace and harmony. As a city that bridges Europe and Asia, and a thriving metropol of 12 million people, Istanbul is an exciting mixture to be experienced, exotic yet distinctly western. Modern amenities, the splendours of the Byzantine and Ottoman past and honored traditions of Turkish hospitality combine to make Istanbul a perfect meeting city, one that will impress treasured and lasting memories.

#### Conference Highlights

Istanbul 2003 will feature several plenary and semi-plenary sessions, tutorials, award sessions/lunches, invited and sponsored lectures and contributed presentations. You can continue networking with your colleagues and key OR/MS professionals at a variety of social events including a conference reception, banquet and visits to places of scenic delights along the Bosphorus straight and historical sites in the old town area. A social program for accompanying persons will be offered to give our guests the opportunity to enjoy some of the city's most fascinating attractions and shopping.

#### Organization

The conference will be organized by Boğaziçi University on behalf of the Turkish Operational Research Society. The organizers can be reached via email: [istanbul2003@boun.edu.tr](mailto:istanbul2003@boun.edu.tr), phone: 90 (212) 257 50 37, fax: 90 (212) 265 18 00 or mail: Istanbul2003, Boğaziçi University, 80815 Bebek-Istanbul, Turkey.

#### Programme Committee

Murat Tarimcilar (INFORMS cochair), George Washington University, [muratt@gwu.edu](mailto:muratt@gwu.edu), Gerhard Wäscher (EURO cochair) Martin-Luther-Universität, Halle, [waescher@wiwi.uni-halle.de](mailto:waescher@wiwi.uni-halle.de), Michael O. Ball (University of Maryland at College Park, [mball@rsmith.umd.edu](mailto:mball@rsmith.umd.edu)), Eberhard E. Bischoff (European Business Management School, [e.lydiard@swansea.ac.uk](mailto:e.lydiard@swansea.ac.uk)), Raymond Bisdorff (Centre Universitaire de Luxembourg, [bisdorff@cu.lu](mailto:bisdorff@cu.lu)), Nesim Erkip (Middle East Technical University, [erkipn@rorqual.cc.metu.edu.tr](mailto:erkipn@rorqual.cc.metu.edu.tr)), Erhan Erkut (University of Alberta, [erhan.erkut@ualberta.ca](mailto:erhan.erkut@ualberta.ca)), José António Soeiro Ferreira (INESC, [jsoeiro@inescn.pt](mailto:jsoeiro@inescn.pt)), Karla Hoffmann (George Mason University, [khoffman@gmu.edu](mailto:khoffman@gmu.edu)), Jakob Krarup (University of Copenhagen, [krarup@diku.dk](mailto:krarup@diku.dk)), Silvano Martello (University of Bologna, [smartello@deis.unibo.it](mailto:smartello@deis.unibo.it)), Süleyman Özekici (Boğaziçi University, [ozekici@boun.edu.tr](mailto:ozekici@boun.edu.tr)), Gary R. Waissi (University of Michigan, Dearborn, [gwaissi@umd.umich.edu](mailto:gwaissi@umd.umich.edu))

#### International Organization Committee

Süleyman Özekici (Chair, Boğaziçi University, [ozekici@boun.edu.tr](mailto:ozekici@boun.edu.tr)), Thomas Gullledge (George Mason University, [gullledge@gmu.edu](mailto:gullledge@gmu.edu)), Paul Jensen (University of Texas at Austin, [pjensen@mail.utexas.edu](mailto:pjensen@mail.utexas.edu)), Jo van Nunen (Erasmus University, Rotterdam, [j.nunen@fbk.eur.nl](mailto:j.nunen@fbk.eur.nl)), Zilla Sinuany-Stern (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, [zilla@bgumail.bgu.ac.il](mailto:zilla@bgumail.bgu.ac.il)), Murat Tarimcilar (George Washington University, [muratt@gwu.edu](mailto:muratt@gwu.edu)), Gerhard Wäscher (Martin-Luther-Universität, Halle, [waescher@wiwi.uni-halle.de](mailto:waescher@wiwi.uni-halle.de))

#### Local Organization Committee

Süleyman Özekici (Chair, Boğaziçi University, [ozekici@boun.edu.tr](mailto:ozekici@boun.edu.tr)), Kuban Altinel (Boğaziçi University, [altinel@boun.edu.tr](mailto:altinel@boun.edu.tr)), Gülay D. Barbarosoğlu (Boğaziçi University, [barbaros@boun.edu.tr](mailto:barbaros@boun.edu.tr)), Ümit Bilge (Boğaziçi University, [bilge@boun.edu.tr](mailto:bilge@boun.edu.tr)), Taner Bilgiç (Boğaziçi University, [taner@boun.edu.tr](mailto:taner@boun.edu.tr)), İlkyay Boduroğlu (Boğaziçi University, [ilkay@boun.edu.tr](mailto:ilkay@boun.edu.tr)), İlhan Or (Boğaziçi University, [or@boun.edu.tr](mailto:or@boun.edu.tr))

The new EURO web site is available since a few days at <http://www.euro-online.org/>

# Management Science Strategic Innovation Prize 2003 (MSSIP 2003)

## Call for Submissions

The European Association of Operational Research Societies (EURO) is offering the Management Science Strategic Innovation Prize (MSSIP) to foster specific areas of application of Operational Research in management. The prize is intended to award outstanding contributions in theory or in practice to a well-chosen scientific area encouraging innovative researchers and possibly entire research groups to focus their work on a domain of particular strategic interest. The prize is conferred at each EURO-k conference and is sponsored by the SAP AG, Germany, with an endowment of 20000 CHF, each.

The MSSIP is awarded the first time at EURO 2003 in Istanbul for an innovative contribution in the area of

### Market Co-ordination in Supply Chain Management

Co-ordination within and between companies primarily accounts for the increasing participation of companies in electronic marketplaces and supply chain hubs. The management of these newly constructed supply chains is one of the fastest growing fields in logistics and operations management. The improved flow of information within and between companies brought about by the adoption of new information technologies (WWW, GPRS, UMTS, etc.) allows for a wide range of market based coordination schemes to integrate the logistic systems of the collaborating firms.

The market co-ordination of supply chains evokes a number of challenging questions, such as

- What is the general role of distributed decision making in market-driven supply chain co-ordination?
- What is the significance and possible relationship of long term and short term market co-ordination?
- How should markets be organised, particularly in the case of products having multiple attributes, and how can a market co-ordination scheme be evaluated?
- How could contract theory, auction theory, or negotiation theory be applied in view of a co-ordination of logistic systems?

- What is the impact of information asymmetry and which information should be disclosed to improve the overall performance of the supply chain?

- What is the role of planning activities in the presence of quick market responses?

The prize is particularly focusing on researchers working in Operations Research, Operations Management, Information Systems, Computer Sciences, and Economics. More specifically, the contribution may be rooted primarily in the following areas: Logistics, artificial intelligence, particularly multi agent systems, game theory, particularly contract theory, and auction theory.

### Submission

The contribution can be a theoretical achievement or an innovative practical implementation and should consist of a paper in which the theoretical result or the practical implementation is described.

The paper is to be submitted in electronic form to the chairman of the jury

**Not later than January 15, 2003.**

Chairman of the MSSIP Jury 2003:

Prof. Dr. Christof Weinhardt  
Information Management and Systems  
University of Karlsruhe (TH), Englerstr. 14  
D-76131 Karlsruhe, Germany  
Email: [weinhardt@iw.uni-karlsruhe.de](mailto:weinhardt@iw.uni-karlsruhe.de)

Members of the MSSIP Jury 2003:

- Prof. Dr. Claus Heinrich, SAP AG, member of the Board, Germany
- Prof. Dr. Paul Kleindorfer, Wharton School, Philadelphia, USA
- Dr. Peter van Laarhoven, TNT Post Group, Dir. Cor. Strategy, The Netherlands
- Prof. Dr. Christoph Schneeweiss, EURO President 1999/2000, University of Mannheim, Germany
- Prof. Dr. Jacques Teghem, editor of EJOR, Faculté Polytechnique de Mons, Belgium
- Prof. Dr. Günter Wäscher, Chair of PC 2003, University of Halle, Germany



# EURO-k Conference 2004 - Greece "Managing Electronic Services"

July, 4-7 2004  
The island of Rhodes - Greece

**Organiser**  
Hellenic Operational Research Society (HELORS)

**Organising Committee Chair**  
Yannis Siskos

**Programme Committee Chair**  
Raymond Bisdorff

**Under the auspices of the**  
Hellenic Ministry of Culture  
University of the Aegean



## For more information

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The new EURO web site is available  
since a few days at  
<http://www.euro-online.org/>

## Call for bids for EURO-k Conference 2006

EURO-k conference is the main and largest conference of EURO. EURO-k conferences provide operational researchers with an international meeting ground where they can present their research output, become updated on new OR research and technology, meet old colleagues and make new friends.

The list of all past and planned EURO-k conferences presented here gives a cross-country overview EURO's activities.

Any OR national society member interested in organising the EURO-k conference in his country for 2006 is invited to submit an application. The guidelines for EURO-k organisers appear in this Bulletin. EURO VP1, Zilla Sinuany-Stern, can provide further information on request.

The deadline date for proposal submission is December 1, 2002.

OR societies who never organised an EURO-k conference are especially encouraged to do so.

Proposals should be sent to:  
Prof. Zilla Sinuany-Stern  
Department of Industrial Engineering and  
Management  
Ben-Gurion University  
Beer Sheva 84105 Israel  
Tel.: 972-8-6472223  
Fax: 972-8-6472958  
E-mail: zilla@bgumail.bgu.ac.il

### EURO-k: Past and Future Conferences

k	Year	Country	City	No. of participants
I	1975	Belgium	Brussels	506
II	1976	Sweden	Stockholm	481
III	1979	Netherlands	Amsterdam	508
IV	1980	U.K.	Cambridge	610
V*	1982	Switzerland	Lausanne	598
VI	1983	Austria	Vienna	488
VII	1985	Italy	Bologna	550
VIII	1986	Portugal	Lisbon	496
IX*	1988	France	Paris	1176
X	1989	Yugoslavia	Belgrade	295
XI	1991	Germany	Aachen	743
XII*	1992	Finland	Helsinki	1206
XIII	1994	U.K.**	Glasgow	745
XIV	1995	Israel	Jerusalem	642
XV*	1997	Spain	Barcelona	1048
XVI	1998	Belgium**	Brussels	760
XVII	2000	Hungary	Budapest	500
XVIII	2001	Netherlands**	Rotterdam	650
XIX*	2003	Turkey	Istanbul	?
XX	2004	Greece	Rhodes	?

\*Conference organised jointly  
with INFORMS.

\*\* The second time the  
country is hosting EURO-k.

# Organisation of EURO K Conferences Guidelines

## Principles

A EURO-k Conference is intended to be a forum for communication and cooperation among European operations researchers. It is also intended to be an international meeting of operations researchers who are active in all the diverse special areas of operations research, and to serve the free exchange of new ideas and promising research results. A EURO-k Conference is not held in the same year as an IFORS conference.

## Site and time

The site of a EURO-k Conference may be a suitable place in the country of a EURO Member Society. In order to keep costs as low as possible, the conference is held in a university or an institution providing meeting rooms at minimum or no charge. The conference usually takes place in summer. Both the site and time of a EURO-k Conference are proposed by the organising Society and have to be agreed by the Council at least 2 years before the proposed date. If another organisation, e.g., INFORMS, is to be involved as well, special protocols (to be endorsed by the Council) have to be used.

## Organising Committee

The Organising Committee is chaired by a local person, member of the organising Society, to be approved by the EURO Council. It includes among its members the Chair of the Programme Committee and EURO Vice-President 1. The Committee is responsible for running all organising affairs, including:

- attracting potential sponsors
- the reservation of rooms and equipment for the conference, including rooms for meetings of the EURO Council, Executive Committee and Working Groups, and Presidents of O.R. Societies
- support in looking after eminent invited speakers
- the reservation of hotel and student rooms in different price categories for the participants
- the organisation of a social programme including the main social event (banquet), visits to tourist attractions, local entertainment events etc. for the participants and accompanying persons

- the provision for food at lunch time and coffee and beverages during the conference days
- the organisation of book and software exhibitions
- printing of the call for papers, invitation programme, final programme and the abstracts booklet, etc.
- providing information at the reception desk for use by delegates to see which delegates have so far arrived, etc.

The Chairman of the Organising Committee, in particular, maintains close co-operation with the Chair of the Programme Committee and EURO Vice-President 1. He/She presents a report regarding the organisation of the conference to the Executive Committee not later than six months after the conference.

All the organising matters are treated by the Committee members. Use of external convention offices should normally be avoided if using such offices will result in increasing the cost of the conference. In order to minimise cost, the ex officio members do not, in general, attend meetings of the Committee but receive papers and provide advice. Since the members of the Committee are generally too busy during the conference to attend sessions, they are excused from paying the registration fee.

## Programme Committee

The Programme Committee is chaired by a person appointed by the Council on the nomination of the Executive Committee coming from a different country to that in which the conference is organised. This Committee includes among its members the Chair of the Organising Committee and the Chair of the Programme Committee of the next EURO-k Conference once appointed. Other members of the Committee are nominated by the Chair from different EURO Member Societies up to a maximum of six. The nominations are approved by the Executive Committee.

The Programme Committee is responsible for all scientific matters including:

- the proposal of the theme of the conference, to be decided by the EURO Council
- the preparation of the Scientific Programme of

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the conference, including plenary, semi-plenary and parallel sessions

- the invitation of speakers for the plenary and semi-plenary sessions
  - the provision in the Programme for meetings of the EURO Council, Executive Committee, presidents of O.R. Societies and Working Groups, and Editorial Board meeting of EJOR
  - the preparation of the Call for Papers, Invitation Programme and the Abstracts booklet
  - making available the Call for Papers, Invitation Programme and Final Programme on the Internet
  - the issuing of instructions to stream organisers, session chairs and speakers
  - the preparation of a special issue of the European Journal of Operational Research
  - issuing daily any changes to the programme etc.
- The Chair of the Programme Committee, in particular, keeps close cooperation with the Chair of the Organising Committee and EURO Vice President 1.

He/She presents a report on the conference regarding the Scientific Programme to the Executive Committee not later than six months after the conference. Most of the work of the Committee is undertaken by correspondence. The Committee however meets to agree on the allocation of tasks to members, the outline programme and the call for papers usually at the previous EURO-k Conference (or an IFORS conference). The Committee then meets again to accept papers for the Invitation Programme and to approve its form, although to save travelling and hotel costs only some members of the Committee attend. This number must be allowed for in the conference budget.

### Special EURO events

1. The opening and closing session should be structured in mutual consent of the OC, PC, and the Executive Committee. Particularly the opening session should give EURO and the inviting national society the opportunity to present themselves to the public. The presentation of the Gold Medal and the accompanying lecture of the laureate are part of the opening session.
2. For the presentation of other prizes, like the Best Applied Paper Award (BAP) or the Special Area Prize (SAP), a suitable occasion of a semi-plenary lecture should be envisaged.
3. The PC should provide a minimum time slot of a semi-plenary lecture for the IFORS-EURO distin-

guished lecture (IEDL). It is the programme committee's responsibility to eventually enlarge this slot in order to allow for a (full) plenary lecture.

### Finance

An initial budget of the EURO-k Conference accompanies the proposal of the organising Society, which has to be agreed upon by the Council. A final budget is submitted to and approved by the EURO Executive Committee at least 12 months before the conference. The system of payment of abstract deposits and registration fees and the location of the bank accounts receiving these fees are chosen by the EURO Treasurer after consultation with the Organising Committee.

EURO Gold Medal Laureates, members of the EURO Executive Committee and the speakers at the plenary and semi-plenary sessions are excluded from paying fees. Students pay a reduced amount. EURO also may provide a sum to meet the registration fees of participants of some special category. Reduced fees may be decided by EURO Council for other categories of participants.

EURO provides, if asked so by the Organising Committee, a loan to cover the costs incurred before registration fees come in. The loan shall be refunded to EURO at the latest at the conference date.

The organising Society has a choice of options for remunerating EURO. It either (a) pays to EURO a fee of CHF 20.000 and keeps any surplus for itself and meets any losses. This avoids the need for EURO to audit the conference accounts. Or (b) if a society cannot organise a conference on this basis, because, for example, of its relatively small size, it may choose to accept between 0% and 30% of profits/losses or up to 50% if it has to cancel its own conference that year. In this case the conference accounts have to be audited by an auditor appointed by EURO.

### Agreement preparation

EURO Vice president 1 prepares a formal agreement based on the above guidelines which is signed by EURO President and Secretary, a representative of the organising Society and the Chairs of the Organising and Programme Committees at least one year before the Conference.

**In appointing the chairpersons of OC and PC, these guidelines should be considered as the basis of their task.**

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## Timetable of EURO k Mile Stones

Years before conference	Activity	Concerned party
4.5	Asking for bids	VP1/national societies
4.0	Selection of bids	EC, VP1
3.5	Presentation of selected nat. societies Acceptance of one of the bids Information of nat. society about the decision, information of the OC chair of the EURO-k guidelines	nat. societies Council EURO President
3.0	Selection of the PC chair	EC, VP1
2.5	Appointment of the PC chair Communication of the Council decision to the PC chairperson, information about the EURO- k guidelines	Council EURO president
2.0	Approval of the PC members appointed by the PC chair 1st PC meeting	EC, VP1, PC chair PC, OC, VP1
1.5	Conference agreement	PC, OC, nat. soc., VP1
0.5	2nd PC meeting Decision upon the 'EURO slot'	EC, EURO president PC, OC, VP1
0.0	Conference	

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# XIX EURO Summer Institute

## Decision Analysis and Artificial Intelligence

### Toulouse, France, 9-21/9/2001

## Final Report



The ESI participants

### Summary

This is the final report of the XIX EURO Summer Institute, which took place in Toulouse, France, 9 to 21 September 2001 on the subject of "Decision Analysis and Artificial Intelligence". The XIX ESI has been sponsored by the French OR society (ROADEF) and EURO with the active support of EURO itself, Université Paris Dauphine (LAMSADE), Université Paris 6 (LIP6) and Université Paul Sabatier de Toulouse (IRIT).

The subject has been identified as an emerging issue both for the Decision Analysis and the Artificial Intelligence communities. There is evidence both in literature and in current practice that concepts, methods and tools developed within the two disciplines are merging and if they are not commonly explored.

From the call for papers we quote: "In recent years more and more re-searchers in the field of decision analysis and artificial intelligence realised they work on common, parallel or similar subjects. Issues such as: planning under uncertainty, qualitative models of decision making, distributed decision making, automated decision making, preference modelling, ordinal structures, rational and autonomous agents, learning, are now in the centre of both theoretical and applied research of

both disciplines. The ESI XIX welcomes contributions from both areas on these subjects".

This report is organised in the following sessions:

- organisation;
- before the ESI;
- the ESI itself;
- feedback and conclusion.

### Organisation

The ESI has been governed by two structures: the organisation committee in charge of the logistics and the running of the ESI and the scientific committee aimed to help in controlling the submissions (when necessary) and in providing the tutorials during the ESI itself. The two bodies were:

#### Organising Committee

- Hélène Fargier, IRIT - CNRS, Université Paul Sabatier, Toulouse, France.
- Jérôme Lang, IRIT - CNRS, Université Paul Sabatier, Toulouse, France.
- Daniel Lehmann, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel.
- Patrice Perny, LIP6, Université Paris 6, Paris, France.
- Alexis Tsoukias, LAMSADE - CNRS, Université Paris Dauphine, Paris, France.
- Philippe Vincke, SMG-ISRO, Université Libre de Bruxelles, Bruxelles, Belgium.

#### Scientific Committee

- Denis Bouyssou, LAMSADE - CNRS, Université Paris-Dauphine, France.
- Didier Dubois, IRIT - CNRS, Université Paul Sabatier, Toulouse, France.
- Jean-Yves Jaffray, LIP6, Université Paris 6, Paris, France.
- Malik Ghallab, LAAS, Toulouse, France.
- Hector Geffner, Universidad Simon Bolivar, Caracas, Venezuela.
- Jérôme Lang, IRIT - CNRS, Université Paul Sabatier, Toulouse, France.

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- Daniel Lehmann, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel.
- Patrice Perny, LIP6, Université Paris 6, Paris, France.
- Jean-Charles Pomerol, LIP6, Université Paris 6, Paris, France.
- Henri Prade, IRIT - CNRS, Université Paul Sabatier, Toulouse, France.
- Roman Slowinski, Poznan University of Technology, Poland.
- Alexis Tsoukiàs, LAMSADE - CNRS, Université Paris Dauphine, Paris, France.
- Philippe Vincke, SMG-ISRO, Université Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium.

The chairmen of the ESI were Patrice Perny and Alexis Tsoukiàs.

## Before the ESI

The project of this ESI was first discussed during a meeting of a CNRS special interest group. The application has been introduced at EURO in January 2000 with the sponsorship of ROADEF. The first call for papers, together with the establishment of the ESI XIX web page (see <http://www-poleia.lip6.fr/perny/ESI2001/>) has been diffused in early autumn 2000 (end of September), mainly to the EURO societies, but also to a number of mailing lists where interested people could get aware of the initiative. A second mailing has been done in early March 2001 in order to recall to the EURO societies and the interested people about the ESI. Only e-mail has been used in order to diffuse the call for papers. By the end of March we have received the list of the IFORS candidates (12) of which finally one has been selected (Satish Seghal). 15 other regular submissions reached as within the schedule asked in the call for papers.

In delay we received the demand of two French and one Belgian asking to participate although not having submitted a paper to the national OR soci-

ety. All of them were able to present an original paper and all of them fit perfectly the ESI subject. The scientific committee being sure that there was no opposition of the two societies, considering that there was still place for participants and appreciating the quality of the submissions decided to admit them at the ESI. These extra participants were Kim Cao Van (from Belgium), Céline Lafage and Sebastien Konieczny (from France).

The final programme has been diffused at the beginning of July as soon as the exact schedule of the tutorials was fixed. During August one ESI participant (Pierluigi Santin, from Italy) wrote us announcing that he was moving to a new job and had to give up his participation to the ESI. The total number of participants was therefore 18 from 12 different countries (Belgium, Byelorussia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Spain, The Netherlands).

## The ESI itself

The ESI took place within the building of IRIT (the computer science department of the University of Toulouse, Paul Sabatier) located at the University campus, in the conference room, fully equipped for such scientific events. The final programme was as follows:

### Sunday 9/9/2001

- 17h00 - 21h00: Welcome of participants at the "Cité Universitaire de l'Arsenal"



Picnic within the campus

Hard working

The new EURO web site is available since a few days at <http://www.euro-online.org/>

Mountain excursion

### Monday 10/9/2001

- 9h00 - 10h00: Presentation of the ESI and of the participants
- 10h00 - 10h30: Coffee Break
- 10h30 - 12h30: Lecture 1, Philippe Vincke (Université Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium), "Preference Modelling and Multicriteria Decision Making"
- 12h30 - 14h30: Lunch
- 14h30 - 15h30: Maria Mavri (Greece), "Performance-Net: A Decision Support System for evaluating and reconfiguring a bank's branch network"
- 15h30 - 16h30: Satish Sehgal (India-IFORS), "Application of Fuzzy Table Look-up Method to Credit Rating"
- 16h30 - 17h00: Coffee Break
- 17h00 - 18h00: Vyacheslav Pokhilko (Byelorussia), "O regularization of the multicriteria optimization problem on permutations"

### Tuesday 11/9/2001

- 8h45 - 10h45: Lecture 2, Didier Dubois (CNRS, Toulouse III University, France), "Possibility Theory: applications to decision analysis"
- 10h45 - 11h15: Coffee Break
- 11h15 - 12h15: Kim Cao Van (Belgium), "A consistent representation of rankings: transforming reversed preference into doubt"
- 12h15 - 14h30: Lunch
- 14h30 - 15h30: Tiago Simas (Portugal), "Number recognition using a fuzzy decision method"
- 15h30 - 16h30: Bernard de Baets (Belgium), "Transitivity-preserving fuzzification schemes for cardinality-based similarity measures"
- 16h30 - 17h00: Coffee Break
- 17h00 - 18h00: Juan Antonio Fernandez (Spain), "Knowledge Synthesis Optimising the Combinatorial Storage of Multidimensional Matrices"

Visiting the town



### Wednesday 12/9/2001

- 8h45 - 10h45: Lecture 3, Denis Bouyssou (CNRS, Paris Université Paris Dauphine, France), "An introduction to Social Choice Theory"
- 10h45 - 11h15: Coffee Break
- 11h15 - 12h15: Céline Lafage (France), "Logical Approaches for Preference Representation"
- 12h15 - 14h00: Lunch
- 14h00 - 15h00: Sándor Zoltán Németh (Hungary), "Stability Analysis of Tree Based Decision Principles"
- 15h00 - 16h00: Martin Geiger (Germany), "Genetic Algorithms for multiple objective vehicle routing"
- 17h00 - 19h00: Visit of Toulouse

### Thursday 13/9/2001

- 9h00 - 10h30: Lecture 4a, Daniel Lehmann (Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel), "Nonmonotonic Logics and Semantics" (1st part)
- 10h30 - 11h00: Coffee Break
- 11h00 - 12h30: Lecture 4b, Daniel Lehmann, Nonmonotonic Logics and Semantics (2nd part)
- 12h30 - 14h30: Lunch
- 14h30 - 15h30: Sebastien Konieczny (France), "On the frontier between arbitration and majority"
- 15h30 - 16h30: Leendert van der Torre (The Netherlands), "Qualitative Decision Making: bridging Artificial Intelligence and Operations Research"
- 16h30 - 17h00: Coffee Break
- 17h00 - 18h00: Jorge Riera-Ledesma (Spain), "Solving the Traveling Purchaser Problem"

### Friday 14/9/2001

- 8h45 - 9h45: Szymon Wilk (Poland), "Supporting Triage of Children with Abdominal Pain in the Emergency Room"
- 9h45 - 10h45: Marta Omero (Italy), "Intelligent decision support systems based on multiple criteria for performance assessment"
- 10h45 - 11h15: Coffee Break
- 11h15 - 12h15: Akos Zsiros (Hungary), "Learning Decision Rules in Continuous Space"



- 12h15 - 14h30: Lunch
- 14h30 - 16h30: Round Table Discussion on "Decision Analysis and Artificial Intelligence" organised by Jean-Charles Pomerol (Université Paris VI, France) and Henri Prade (CNRS, Université Toulouse III, France)
- 20h00: ESI dinner

#### Saturday 15/9/2001

- Free Time (Possible Visit of the Cité de l'Espace)

#### Sunday 16/9/2001

- 8h30 - 19h30: Visit of the ruins of the "Montségur Castle" and visit of the "Niaux cave" (departure at 8h30, meeting point: cité Universitaire de l'arsenal).

#### Monday 17/9/2001

- 9h00 - 10h30: Lecture 5a, Jean-Yves Jaffray (Paris VI University, France), "Bayesian Networks and Influence Diagrams" (1st part)
- 10h30 - 11h00: Coffee Break
- 11h30 - 12h30: Lecture 5b, Jean-Yves Jaffray, "Bayesian Networks and Influence Diagrams" (2nd part)
- 12h30 - 14h30: Lunch
- 14h30 - 15h30: Philippe Fortemps (Belgium), "Selecting preferred solutions in flexible dynamic programming"
- 15h30 - 16h30: Pierre Gérard (France), "Generalisation and Latent Learning in Learning Classifier Systems"
- 16h30 - 17h00: Coffee Break

#### Tuesday 18/9/2001

- 9h00 - 10h30: Lecture 6, Roman Slowinski (Poznan University of Technology, Poland), "Rough Sets Theory: application to Decision Analysis" (1st part)
- 10h30 - 11h00: Coffee Break
- 11h00 - 12h30: Roman Slowinski, "Rough Sets Theory: application to Decision Analysis" (2nd part)
- 12h30 - 14h00: Lunch
- 14h00 - 16h00: Lecture 7a, Malik Ghallab (CNRS, LAAS Toulouse, France): "Planning and Decision Theory" (1st part)
- 16h00 - 16h30: Coffee Break
- 16h30 - 18h30: Lecture 7b, Hector Geffner (Universidad Simon Bolivar, Caracas, Venezuela), "Planning and Decision Theory" (2nd part)
- 18h30: Jazz Concert

#### Wednesday 19/9/2001

Within the ECSQARU Conference:

- 9h00 - 10h00: Hector Geffner, "Planning with Uncertainty and In-complete Information"
- In the afternoon, Invited Session on Decision Analysis:
  1. Michel Grabisch, "On Preference Representation on an ordinal scale"



2. Salvatore Greco, Benedetto Matarazzo, Roman Slowinski, "Rule-based decision support in multi-criteria choice and ranking"
3. Céline Lafage and Jerome Lang, "Propositional distance and preference representation"

#### Thursday 20/9/2001

ECSQARU Conference

#### Friday 21/9/2001

ECSQARU Conference

All invited speakers, but one (due to a last minute familiar problem) show up and remain for an average of 3(three) days. Nevertheless the missing lecturer has been replaced by Patrice Perny. Some of them had a very good feeling with the ESI participants. The programme runs regularly until Tuesday evening. Then the ESI merged with the ECSQARU conference where one invited speaker and one session were commonly organised. The two events were scientifically very near and the fact that both were occurring at the same time and at the same place suggested to try to combine them. ESI participants were registered as regular participants of

Relaxing after a hard day...

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the ECSQARU conference (receiving the proceedings volume and the rest of the conference services at a reduced price) and a common invited speaker and invited session was organised.

A number of social activities has been organised:

- a visit at the Toulouse city (Thursday 13/9);
- a visit to the space centre of Toulouse (Saturday 15/9);
- a visit to a castle and caves (the whole day of Sunday 16/9);
- a jazz concert (Monday 17/9).

ESI participants were endowed with tickets of the students restaurant (both for lunch and dinner), but almost every second evening a dinner was organised to a local restaurant. ESI participants were hosted at one of the students residence located downtown in Toulouse ("cité Universitaire de l'Arsenal"). This in order to allow the participants to take a taste of the life of Toulouse. Bus tickets were provided in order to allow transportation between the conference location and the residence.

### Feedback and Conclusion

Wednesday 19/9 a feedback meeting has been organised in order to assess the participants experience. A number of points emerged during the discussion, such as:

- tutorial speakers were expected to stay more than what effectively happen;
- tutorial documents might circulate before the

beginning of the classes;

- some practice oriented workshop using small groups of participants would be highly appreciated;
- more software demonstration is asked;
- the education perspective should also be considered within an ESI.

As organisers we would like to mention a number of issues:

- national OR societies, quite often forget to circulate the information;
- as a result there are few candidates and therefore an objective problem of quality of the participants;
- does it make sense to allow the interested to submit directly to the scientific committee?

At the end of the feedback meeting there has been discussion concerning the possibility to create a permanent work around the ESI XIX subject. Philippe Fortemps and Leon van der Torre have been nominated unanimously co-ordinators. They will prepare an application for becoming an EURO working group.

A feature issue of EJOR has been announced during the ESI. Members of the scientific committee are expected to provide some comments to the presented papers in order to meet EJOR standards. Then the regular refereeing procedure will apply. We are confident to be able to close the feature issue by the end of 2002.

Last, but not least, the local organisers (Jerome Lang, Helene Fargier, Céline Lafage) have been warmly thanked for their excellent job in hosting the ESI.



... In a beautiful town

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The Association of European Operational Research Societies within IFORS

# Announcement EURO Summer Institute (ESI XX) Grainau, Germany, August 23 - September 1, 2002

### Theme

Supply Chain Management and Advanced Planning

### Scope

Nowadays competition not only between individual companies but also between entire supply chains is getting into the focus of business leaders. Supply Chain Management which deals with the integration of organizational units and coordination of flows along a supply chain offers potentials for lead time reductions, customer service enhancements, and improved cost effectiveness and hence is seen as a major source of competitive advantage. How can OR contribute?

One way is to further develop Advanced Planning Systems and concepts such as e-procurement. But there are many more facets and issues in Supply Chain Management - and we are very interested in your contribution, regardless whether it is more conceptual, model based or algorithmic.

EURO Summer and Winter Institutes (ESWI) are organized to encourage good social and working relationships among promising young OR scientists in Europe. One important purpose of a EURO Institute is to establish a network of promising young researchers (normally aged 25-35) who will continue to work together in future, e.g. as a working group. The participation is limited to a group of about 25. Participation is an honor and a person can be a participant in an ESWI only once in her/his career.

Applicants should submit an unpublished paper within the theme of the Institute together with their curriculum vitae to their National OR Society. Each National Society of EURO will then select one (eventually two) candidate(s) and submit the information to the chairperson of ESI XX. The scientific committee will make the final choice of the participants.

### Activities

At the Institute there will be lectures given by invited speakers, but the main emphasis will be on the participants' presentations and on the discussion about the papers. A special issue of EJOR (European Journal of Operational Research) will be prepared based on papers presented at the Institute. EURO considers the social activities to be most important for the success of the ESI, since it is through these activities that friendships can develop and a scientific network can be established for cooperation in the future. For this purpose, the organizers of this German ESI will prepare a varied social program including tours and visits (like Zugspitze or Schloss Neu Schwanstein).

### Location and expenses

ESI 2002 will take place in Grainau, a lovely village with a magnificent view of the German Alps. The cost of stay at the ESI (scientific program, accommodation, meals, and social activities) is covered by EURO, the German OR Society, and other sponsors. The participants will have to cover the costs of travel to Grainau. However, EURO encourages the National OR Societies to give support to their participants to cover these costs.

### Schedule

- Deadline for submission of papers to the National Societies: to be decided by each National Society.
- Deadline for submission of information about candidates by the National OR Societies to ESI XX: April 1st, 2002.
- Announcement of selected participants by the Scientific Committee of the ESI XX: May 2nd, 2002.
- ESI 2002I (Supply Chain Management and Advanced Planning): August 23rd - September 1st, 2002.

**INFORMATION**

Information is available from the organizing committee and the chairperson:

Prof. Dr. Hartmut Stadler  
Technische Universität  
Darmstadt  
Phone: ++ 49 6151 16 2163  
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Fachbereich 1, FG 1  
Hochschulstr. 1  
D-64289 Darmstadt  
GERMANY  
[esixx@bwl.tu-darmstadt.de](mailto:esixx@bwl.tu-darmstadt.de)

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## Call for bids for EURO Summer/Winter Institute (ESWI) 2004-2006

Although small in size (less than 30 participants) ESWI is a powerful tool. ESWI is devoted to young researchers (and research students) who specialise in the theme of the specific ESWI and have a publishable paper on that subject. They are selected by their national society. These outstanding scholars have the opportunity to meet leading researchers and other young colleagues. Thus, they can establish international co-operation at an early stage of their career. Moreover, their papers are eventually published in a special volume of EJOR devoted to their specific area of interest. Thus, EWSI can be considered to be an incubator for the future leaders of EURO. The participant societies cover the transportation expenses of their candidates while the ESWI covers the rest.

The list of past EURO ESWI presented here gives a cross-country overview of ESWI activities over time. The guidelines for ESWI organisers appear in this Bulletin. EURO VP1 Zilla Sinunay-Stern can provide further information on request.

The deadline for submissions is December 1, 2002. We have enclosed the Guidelines for ESWI organisations. For further information please contact:  
Prof. Zilla Sinuany-Stern  
Department of Industrial Engineering and Management  
Ben-Gurion University  
Beer Sheva 84105 Israel  
Tel.: 972-8-6472223 - Fax: 972-8-6472958  
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# EURO Summer Institute Guidelines

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EURO Summer Institutes (ESI) are an instrument EURO has established for the encouragement of good social and working relationship between promising young O.R. scientists in Europe.

Three ESI may be organised every two years. Each ESI covers a different theme so that as many young scientists as possible will have the opportunity to participate once in their career. The duration of an ESI is normally between 2 and 2 1/2 weeks.

The main purpose of each ESI is to establish in each O.R. field a network of outstanding people who will continue to work together in the future.

Participation can be considered an honour as it is limited to a group of about 20 people, normally aged 25-35, who have significant experience in the chosen field, and are authors of at least one good paper which has not yet been published, nor submitted for publication. Applicants should submit their curriculum vitae together with their paper to their National O.R. Society, with a copy to the Scientific Committee. The National Societies select and rank (in the case of more than one) their National Candidates before passing on their applications to the Scientific Committee by the date advised. The Scientific Committee will abide by the selections of the National Societies.

No special courses are organised during the ESI but every participant gives a well-prepared presentation of her or his work as a starting point for discussion. Invited experts' lectures can be included in the programme, as can seminars and other research activities conducted by the Scientific Committee.

Papers for a special issue of EJOR (the European Journal of Operational Research) are prepared during the ESI.

EURO considers the social activity (dining and playing together) to be most important for the success of the ESI for it is through these activities that friendships develop.

EURO provides a substantial financial support to the organisers. The organisers will have to raise additional funds with the help of the National O.R. Society. Public and private sponsors should be approached.

Each ESI is an instrument for the promotion of a young O.R. scientist. It is an instrument for the future of EURO. It is expected that each National O.R. Society at its turn will contribute once to the organisation of a ESI.

## Previous and forthcoming EURO summer institutes

ESI I	Location Theory	1984	Brussels, Belgium
ESI II	Multicriteria Analysis	1985	Brussels, Belgium
ESI III	Decision making in an Uncertain World	1986	Canterbury, United Kingdom
ESI IV	Systems Science	1987	Finland
ESI V	Production Planning and Control	1988	Eindhoven, The Netherlands
ESI VI	Decision Support Systems	1989	Funchal, Madeira - Portugal
ESI VII	Urban Traffic Management	1991	Cetraro, Cosenza - Italy
ESI VIII	Risk Management in Complex Production and Transportation Systems	1992	Rosersberg, Sweden
ESI IX	Hierarchical Planning	1993	Mannheim, Germany
ESI X	Combinatorial Optimisation	1994	Versailles, France
ESI XI	OR Models of Maintenance	April, 1995	Greater Manchester, U.K.
ESI XII	Locational Analysis	June, 1995	Puerto de la Cruz, Tenerife, Spain
ESI XIII	Stochastic Optimisation	January, 1996	Semmering, Austria
ESI XIV	Environmental Planning	June, 1996	Piraeus, Greece
ESI XV	Production Scheduling	September, 1997	Aosta Valley, Italy
ESI XVI	Performance measurement (DEA)	August, 1998	Warwick University, U.K.
EWI XVII	Protection and exploitation of renewable resources	March, 1999	Ilonantsi, Finland
EWI XVIII	Metaheuristic and combinatorial optimisation	March, 2000	Lac Noir, Switzerland

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## Organisation of EURO summer institute guidelines

### EURO financial support

EURO provides in advance financial support (currently CHF20.000) to cover a part of the costs of organisation, accommodation and social activities. Costs above this will have to be covered by the organising society and sponsors. The additional funds will be raised by the organisers. Public institutions and private firms should be approached. The budget of an ESI is usually about three times the EURO support.

### Define the theme

Outline the theme on the application form provided.

### Nominate an Organising Committee

The committee should consist of local persons approved by the National OR Society and is responsible for all the organisational matters of the ESI. It should also include the Chair or another member of the Committee of the forthcoming ESI. The Committee must include at least two prominent senior scientists in the field of the ESI who will be able to stay for the full duration of the Institute. The role of these scientists is to contribute to the discussion of the work of the participants, conduct workshops and assist the participants in improving their papers. It is desirable to include in the Committee a participant from a previous ESI.

### Fix the dates

Take into consideration that the ESI will be for 2 to 2 1/2 weeks, in the summer period, with accommodation usually on a University campus, and starting on a Friday night with a cheese party and social activities during the first week-end in order to develop friendly links between the participants.

### Find a location

Conference room - Accommodation - Social activities.

### Fix the dead line for submitting papers to the Scientific Committee

### Important Dates

- Submission of proposal: at least 18 months before the proposed date for the ESI.
- Circulation of information among O.R. Societies: 14 months before the ESI.
- Submission of Candidates by O.R. Societies: 4 months before ESI.

- Selection of Candidates by Scientific Committee: 3 months before ESI.
- Submission of final version of papers for publication in EJOR: 2 months after the end of the ESI.
- Submission of a Final Report on the ESI by the Chair of the Committee, to the Executive Committee of EURO : 3 months after the end of the ESI
- Presentation of manuscripts of special EJOR number to EJOR editors: 6 months after the end of the ESI.

### Prepare announcement

Large size and/or reduced size posters announcing the ESI may be prepared. Include the definition of the theme and other information in the announcement. Announcement should be sent to the editors of the EURO and IFORS bulletins, the editor of the EURO WWW pages, editors of the newsletters of National Societies, etc.

### Distribute the posters

A few originals meant for photocopying should be sent to the EURO member O.R. Societies.

### Circulate the announcement

Address it directly to potential interested persons in Universities and Research Centres, and to prominent persons working in the field of the Theme in Europe.

### Raise funds

The more money, the more invited speakers, the more social activities. Government, institutions, foundations, firms, societies, all kind of possible sponsors could be approached. The sojourn (accommodation, meals, social activities, scientific programmes) is offered to the participants. The travel expenses to the host country are at their own costs. EURO encourages National O.R. Society to cover travel expenses of their participants.

### Prepare the selection procedure

Each participant has to submit a paper (possibly co-authored). Only the best applications will be kept. Nobody can participate in more than one ESI.

### Prepare a social programme

- Barbecues, Parties
- Visit of the host country (towns, nature, museums, etc.)
- Walks in open nature (some buses to be booked for travel)

- Sport activities each evening (Volley Ball, Ping Pong, etc.)
- Cooking together

#### **For the opening day (usually a Friday night)**

- Party

#### **For the closing day**

- A final dinner or banquet
- A diploma to be offered to the participants

#### **Think about invited speakers**

People of the host country or people being in the host country at the time of the Institute may be invited. Avoid invited speakers requesting too much travel expenses. Avoid too many speakers - remember the ESI should be centred on the participants.

#### **Scientific Committee and invited speakers expenses**

It is recommended that speakers are given free accommodation and board and, if possible, a lump sum to cover their travelling expenses.

#### **Prepare the Institute Programme**

- Timetable lectures by participants
- Timetable invited lectures
- Timetable working groups
- Timetable social activities

#### **Prepare the procedure for the special issue of EJOR devoted to the Institute**

Collect papers, referee them, etc. This special issue is usually published one year after the Institute, which is very short.

#### **Keep the selected participants regularly informed**

Be enthusiastic and dynamic.

## **Guidelines for the exchange of young researchers between EURO ESWI and IFORS**

The exchange of young researchers between EURO and IFORS works both ways:

- young researchers from Developing countries going to EURO Summer/Winter Institute (ESWI);
- young European researchers going to IFORS institutes in developing countries.

Here are the guidelines for each:

#### **■ ESWI**

Each organiser of ESWI is responsible to send a call for paper to the IFORS office after the ESWI is approved by the EURO EC. IFORS is responsible to advertise to its members the call for candidates from developing countries for each ESWI. IFORS is also responsible for selecting only one candidate from developing countries which meets all the criteria of ESWI: age, unpublished paper in the relevant topic, vitae etc. If the scientific committee of the specific ESWI will approve the IFORS candidate his/her travelling costs will be covered by IFORS and the local costs will be covered by EURO.

#### **■ Developing countries institute:**

IFORS is responsible to send EURO VP of IFORS a call for paper for any FORS Institute in Developing countries. EURO VP of IFORS will advertise the institute in EURO bulletin and among the national societies to send him appropriate candidates (at most from each country). He is responsible to select one candidate. EURO will cover the trip expenses of the candidate and IFORS will cover the local costs.

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## Euro Working Group Complex Societal Problems

### Board of the Euro Working Group Complex Societal Problems

- Dr. Dorien J. DeTombe (chair), The Netherlands
- Prof. Dr. Tineke Bahlmann, University of Utrecht, The Netherlands
- Prof. Dr. Ken Bowen, University of London, United Kingdom
- Dr. Cor van Dijkum, Utrecht University, The Netherlands
- Prof. Dr. Dick Duke, Michigan University, USA
- Prof. Dr. Franz Liebl, University Witten/Herdecke, Germany
- Prof. Dr. Marjan Vezjak, University of Ljubljana, Slovenian

Handling complex societal problems needs a special approach. Handling societal problems in an interdisciplinary way has become a must for our society and a challenge for the human sciences. The problems society is confronted with are difficult to handle. There is a growing gap between the complexity of these problems and the human capacity to deal with them. There is a need for better methods and tools, more knowledge and imagination. Scientific knowledge is needed to survive amidst these problems.

Therefore methodology for complex societal problems has become a new field of scientific attention. Some of the scientific reasons for this special approach are that the problems are seldom defined, change during their development, many actors are involved often with a different view on the problem, with different interest and with different 'solutions' in mind. Societal reasons for this special approach is the importance of these problems for society, the impact they have on many people, and the large amount of money involved. Combining the effort of scientists who are working in this field is an inspiring serious challenge from the perspective of a number of disciplines. Combining existing knowledge and creating new insights with methods and tools for supporting complex societal problems is a challenge for scientists from different fields.

The goal of the Euro Group on Complex Societal Problems is to increase and to combine the avail-

able scientific knowledge regarding the handling of complex societal problems. Means to reach this goal are organising workshops and conferences, publishing proceedings and books in which the discussion on this subject can take place.

The number of members of the Euro Working Group is steadily growing. The members of the Euro Working Group come from different fields and are work at universities all over the world. There is a high degree of activity and interaction amongst the members of the group. By the reaction of the audience there is a feeling that this relatively new subject of the Operational Research field is winning more and more interest. There is also a growing interest from the side of policy makers who recognise that the problems they are confronted with are complex problems, which are not easy to solve, and which need an complex integral approach. The growing interest is needed, because the problems society is confronted with should be efficient and sustainable handled.

### What are complex societal problems?

Complex societal problems like in Europe the recent difficulties in the Agro-industry as the Mad-Cow disease and the Foot- and Mouth disease, and the continue problems with in the area of transportation. The world-wide problems in the area of healthcare like Malaria and HIV/AIDS, and the Water problems (too less, too much and not clean).

In many areas of society problems occur that can be categorized as complex societal problems. Complex societal problems are real life problems. These real life problems are almost without exception complex, include much uncertainty and are therefor hard to handle. Complex societal problems are often unique in their performance although they might and often have occurred many times before. This means that no routine like way of solving is possible.

Complex societal problems are often ill- or multi-defined, hard to analyze, to structure and to change.



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Knowledge, and data are missing or contradicts each other. The causes of the problem are vague. It is difficult to see where, when, and by which and whom the problem was started, who is involved in the problem and who is not, and who is affected by the problem. Although many phenomena, actors, private and governmental, and many people are involved, it is seldom clear beforehand, which phenomena are involved, which groups, and which actors are involved. There can be a changing group of actors involved as well that there are often several departments involved. Each actor has its own view on the problem, its own goals, power and emotion.

Complex societal problems are unstructured, dynamical and constantly changing. Complex societal problems have a large impact on society on macro, meso as well as on micro level. Sometimes they are local problems; mostly they are region wide or even world-wide problems. Complex societal problems can be found in all countries of the world. It is often uncertain what impact the problem has on society, what the goals and interests of the actors are and what will be the outcome of the problem. There are no easy, simple answers for these problems. Solutions, if there are any, can only be found with great effort and are often only temporarily.

Complex societal problems are interdisciplinary including aspects that are subject of study in several scientific disciplines. Handling societal problems include knowledge, power and emotion.

The knowledge for handling complex societal problems comes from a variety of scientific disciplines. Two kinds of knowledge are needed for handling complex societal problems: content knowledge, which means knowledge on the subject of the problem, such as healthcare knowledge or environmental knowledge, and problem handling knowledge.

The content knowledge comes from content experts, a doctor, or hospital manager or an actor in this field. The process knowledge comes from facilitators. These are scientists or practitioners working in this field of complex societal problems. These scientists and practitioners have backgrounds in different scientific disciplines, and use methods derived from their original field combined with methods specially created for the field of handling societal problems. Methods and insights used derive from the field of medicine, law, economics,

societal sciences, mathematics, computer sciences, technology, engineering sciences, chaos theory and operational research.

Next to knowledge power plays a role in handling complex societal problems. The power is often divided in a democracy among the problem owner and the actors. Together they must find mutual acceptable 'solutions'.

In all phases of the problem managing process emotions plays a role. Emotions towards the problem, or towards the desired goal, as well as emotions between the groups and actors, and between the people who handle the problem.

### The year 2001

In the year 2001 the Euro Working Group on Complex Societal Problems organised six international meetings. Four meetings were organised together with the Dutch NOSMO research group on Complex Societal Problems and the West-Euro group on Complex Societal Problems. These meetings took place in Amsterdam (twice) Maastricht and Brussels. At the meetings research was discussed by presenting papers, and research co-operation was discussed, which resulted in an international and methodological comparison on the subject of 'The Complexity of Large Cities'. In the summer two international conferences were co-organised by the Euro Working Group on Complex Societal Problems.

One international conference, organised together with the Dutch NOSMO research group on Complex Societal Problems and the Dutch NOSMO research group on Simulation was dedicated to the role of simulation models in handling Complex Societal Problems at the EUROSIM2001. The conference took place in June 2001 in Delft University of Technology, Delft, The Netherlands (two tracks, 5 sessions).

The other international conference in the summer took place in Rotterdam on the EURO 2001 in The Netherlands (six tracks, 18 sessions). Of each conference a special booklet was published with the abstracts of the paper presenters (see right page).

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## Special sessions/conferences organised by the Euro Working Group on Complex Societal Problems

- ISAGA conference Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA, July 1994
- The First International Conference on Methods and Tools for Handling Complex Societal Problems, Delft University of Technology, The Netherlands, November 1994
- EURO XIV, 14th European Conference on Operational Research, 1995 - 20th Anniversary of Euro, Jerusalem, Israel, July 1995
- Second International Conference on Methods and Tools for Handling Complex Societal Problems, Munich University of Technology, Germany, organised in conjunction with WACRA-Europe Society on Case Method Research, June 1996
- IFORS '96 conference, Vancouver, Canada, July 1996
- ISAGA conference University of Tilburg, The Netherlands, July 1997
- EURO/INFORMS conference Barcelona, Spain, July 1997
- WACRA-Europe conference, Madrid, Spain, September 1997
- EURO XVI Operational Research. Brussels, Euro Working Group Handling Societal Problems, July 1998
- 14th International Sociology Conference, Montreal, Canada, July 1998
- Simulation in Industry Conference, Nottingham, UK, October 1998.
- IFORS'99, Beijing, Euro Working Group Handling Societal Problems, August 1999
- EURO XVII, EURO 2000, 17th European Conference on Operational Research Budapest, Hungary, July 16-19, 2000
- 5th International Conference on Social Science Methodology, RC33, Cologne, Germany, October 2000
- EUROSIM2001, Shaping Future With Simulation, 4th International EUROSIM, Delft, The Netherlands, June 2001
- EURO XVIII, EURO 2001, 18th European Conference on Operational Research Rotterdam, The Netherlands, July 2001
- IFORS 2002: Edinburgh, UK, [www.ifors2002.org](http://www.ifors2002.org)
- Methodology in the Twenty First Century, July 7-13 2002 Brisbane, Australia, [www.ucm.es/info/isa/congress2002/](http://www.ucm.es/info/isa/congress2002/)

## Published on the topic of Complex Societal Problems

### Books

- DeTombe, D.J. (1994) *Defining complex interdisciplinary societal problems. A theoretical study for constructing a co-operative problem handling method: the method COMPRAM*. Amsterdam: Thesis publishers Amsterdam (thesis), 439 pp. ISBN: 90-5170-302-3
- DeTombe, Dorien J. & Cor van Dijkum (Eds.) (1996) *Analyzing Societal Problems. A Methodological Approach*. Mering: Rainer Hampp Verlag, 300 pp. ISBN: 3-87988-189-8
- Stuhler, E. & D.J. DeTombe (Eds.) (1999) Volume 5, Cognitive Psychological Issues and Environment Policy Application, *Research on Cases and Theories*. Munchen/Mering: Hampp Verlag, ISBN: 3-87988-355-6
- DeTombe, D.J. & Stuhler, E. (Eds.) (1999) Volume 6, Complex Problem Solving; Methodological Support for Societal Policymaking, *Research on Cases and Theories*. Munchen/Mering: Hampp Verlag, ISBN: 3-87988-356-4
- Dijkum van, Cor, Dorien DeTombe, & Etzel van Kuijck (Eds.) (1999) *Validation of simulation models*. Amsterdam: Siswo, ISBN: 90-676-152-2
- DeTombe, Dorien J. (Guest Editor) (2001) Handling Complex Societal Problems, *European Journal of Operation Research*; Vol. 128-2, pp.227-458, 16 January 2001, Elsevier, North-Holland, Amsterdam

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<http://www.euro-online.org/>

**Books of abstracts**

- Van Dijkum, C. & D.J. DeTombe (Eds.) (1994) *The First International Conference on Complex Societal Problems*. Technical University Delft / Utrecht University
- Stuhler E. & D.J. DeTombe (Eds.) (1996a) *Complex Problems & Climate Change*. Munich: Munich University of Technology
- DeTombe, D.J. (Ed.) (1996b) Ifors '96, The International Federation of Operational Research Societies, July 1996 Vancouver, Canada. *Special Session Methods and Tools for Analyzing Complex Societal Policy Problems*. Delft: Delft University of Technology
- DeTombe, D.J. (1997) (Ed.) *Methodology for Analyzing Societal Problems*. Euro XV & Informs XXXIV, Barcelona, July 1997. Delft: Delft University of Technology, 20 pp.
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- DeTombe, Dorien J. & C. van Dijkum (1998b) (Eds.) *Sociocybernetics - Methodology for complex societal problem and sociocybernetic concepts* 14th International Sociology Conference in Special Session Using Sociocybernetics Concepts for Analyzing Complex Societal Problems Montreal, Canada, Delft: Delft University of Technology
- DeTombe, Dorien J. (1999) IFORS'99. *Methodology For Analyzing Complex Societal Problems, Euro Working Group , Operational Research Societies*, Book of Abstracts, Volume 6. Pp.18. Delft: Delft University of Technology. ISBN90-5638-039-7
- DeTombe, Dorien J. (2000a) (Ed.) *EURO XVII, EURO 2000 Methodology for Handling Complex Societal Problems*. Book of Abstracts, Volume 7. Euro Working Group. Pp.31, Delft: Delft University of Technology. ISBN 90-5638-0524
- DeTombe, Dorien J. (2000b) (Ed.) *5th International Conference on Social Science Methodology. RC33 Methodology for Handling Complex Societal Problems*. Book of Abstracts, Volume 8. Pp.18. Delft: Delft University of Technology. ISBN 90-5638-0516
- DeTombe, Dorien J. (2001a) (Ed.) *Complexity as a Challenge* Book of Abstracts, Volume 9. EURO 2001. Pp.38. Delft: Delft University of Technology. ISBN 90-5638-080-X
- DeTombe, Dorien J. (2001b) (Ed.) *Handling Complex Societal Problems*. Book of Abstracts, Volume 10. Pp.18, EUROSIM2001. Delft: Delft University of Technology. ISBN 90-5638-081-8

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The new EURO web site is available  
since a few days at  
<http://www.euro-online.org/>

# IX ELAVIO

## Latin-American Summer School on Operations Research Vaquerías, Córdoba, Argentina February 25 to March 1st, 2002

The IX ELAVIO will be held in a resort of the Universidad Nacional de Córdoba, in Vaquerías, 80km away from Córdoba City, Argentina. It's being organized by Departamento de Computación, Facultad de Ciencias Exactas y Naturales, University of Buenos Aires in collaboration with professors of other Argentinean Universities (Salta, La Plata, Rosario). The IX ELAVIO is sponsored by SADIO (Sociedad Argentina de Informática e Investigación Operativa), ALIO (Asociación Latinoiberoamericana de Investigación Operativa), IFORS, the Ministry of Education of Argentina and Agencia Nacional de Promoción Científica.

ELAVIOs were designed for young Latin-American scholars of areas related to Operations Research. The main purpose of them is the interaction and interchange of ideas between seniors and young scholars of different countries. The structure of ELAVIO is a combination of tutorials given by the senior academics, which take about 50% of the total time, and presentations given by the young scholars to discuss their work. The main areas of IX ELAVIO will be Combinatorial Optimization, Metaheuristics, Linear and Nonlinear Programming, and OR Real Cases Applications.

### Program

Detailed program of tutorials and talks will be available by the end of October 2001 at the Web page <http://www.dc.uba.ar/alio/elavio>

### Venue

ELAVIO venues are chosen in order to help the interaction between participants and their complete dedication to the event. In this case we took also into account the accessibility of students of neighborhood countries. Vaquerías resort is located in a mountain area, suitable for walking and riding. It has a swimming pool, soccer, volley, paddle and bowls courts.

### Registration

Participants must pay a \$50 US registration fee and ELAVIO will cover the living expenses for young scholars coming from ALIO countries, as well as those invited by exchange agreements.

Deadline for registration is November 30th. Selection of participants is going to be done by the organizers, and accepted ones will be notified by December 15th.

### Previous ELAVIO's

The school has been organized each year since 1994. Previous versions took place in different locations of Latin America, as:

- ELAVIO, Punta de Tralca, Chile, 1994
- ELAVIO, Mendes, Brasil, 1995
- ELAVIO, Bariloche, Argentina, 1996
- ELAVIO, Montevideo, Uruguay, 1997
- ELAVIO, Viña del Mar, Chile, 1998
- ELAVIO, Mendes, Brasil, 1999
- ELAVIO, La Habana, Cuba, 2000
- ELAVIO, Viña del Mar, Chile, 2001

Forty to seventy participants coming from several Latin-American countries and prestigious professors and researchers attended each school. Their realization derived in a very important increase of interchange and collaborative research in the region.

CALL FOR PAPERS AND NOVEL IDEAS (EXTENDED DEADLINE)

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EURO Bulletin

# 13th Mini-EURO Conference

## Handling Uncertainty in the Analysis of Traffic and transportation Systems

And

9th Meeting of the EURO Working Group on Transportation Intermodality,  
Sustainability and Intelligent Transportation Systems

June 10 to 12, 2002 - Polytechnic University of Bari  
Dept. of Highways and Transportation - Bari, Italy

The new EURO web site is available  
since a few days at  
<http://www.euro-online.org/>

### Abstract Submission and Time Schedule

Since the subjects have been extended to fit the topics of both the Conferences, the new deadline for papers submission will be January the 10th 2002. Authors wishing to contribute papers (or ideas for presentation and discussion) to the Conference and/or EWGT Session are requested to submit an extended abstract in English (maximum 5 pages including figures, tables and references) by January 10, 2002. The abstract needs to be submitted to the Conference Scientific Secretariat, following the instructions indicated on the web site of the Conference. The International Organizing Committee will review all abstracts and notify the authors regarding acceptance. The approval notification will be forwarded by January 31 2002. Once the papers or ideas have been accepted, all authors will be asked to confirm their participation by February 28 2002. All extended abstracts will be published in the Conference Proceedings and will be available at the time of registration.

A selected set of full papers (each max. 7,500 words) will be published in a special issue (or special section) of a prominent academic journal, e.g. European Journal of Operational Research. The authors who wish their full papers reviewed for publication, are invited to submit the full paper within one month after the meeting.

#### Important Dates:

Deadline for the submission of an extended abstract:  
January 10, 2002 (extended)  
Notification of Acceptance: January 31, 2002  
Deadline for the submission of revised versions  
and proceedings inclusion: March 30, 2002  
Deadline for early registration: March 30, 2002

13th Mini-EURO Conference and 9th EWGT  
Meeting: June 10-12, 2002

Deadline for the submission of full papers: July 30,  
2002

### Publication of Selected Papers

A selected set of full papers (each max. 7,500 words) will be published in a special issue (or special section) of a prominent academic journal, e.g. European Journal of Operational Research. The authors who wish their full papers reviewed for publication, are invited to submit the full paper within one month after the meeting.

### Registration Fees

13th Mini EURO-Conference + 9th Meeting of the  
EWGT

Early registration: 250 euros (before March 30, 2002)

Late registration: 300 euros (after March 30, 2002)

Reduced fee for students: 150 euros

The fee includes the registration to both conferences, proceedings, lunch, coffee breaks and conference dinner.

### Conference Secretariat

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**I N F O R M A T I O N**

<http://www.poliba.it/ewg2002/>

## EURO events calendar

14-16/03/02	EWG	Multi Criteria Aiding Leipzig, Germany rauschma@alok.ufz.de <a href="http://www.oesa.ufz.de/mcda55">http://www.oesa.ufz.de/mcda55</a>
2-5/04/02	Mini EURO	Decision Support Systems and HCP Brussels, Belgium jpbrans@vnet3.vub.ac.be <a href="http://www.DSS.Brussels-2002.vub.ac.be">http://www.DSS.Brussels-2002.vub.ac.be</a>
3-5/04/02	EWG	8th International Workshop on Project Management and Scheduling Valencia, Spain pms2002@uv.es <a href="http://www.adeit.uv.es/pms2002/">http://www.adeit.uv.es/pms2002/</a>
9-11/05/02	EWG	EWG ECCO Lugano, Switzerland <a href="http://www.prism.uvsq.fr/~vdc/ECCO/">www.prism.uvsq.fr/~vdc/ECCO/</a>
10-12/06/02	Mini EURO	Abstract Submission and Time Schedule Bari, Italy Ewg2002@poliba.it <a href="http://www.poliba.it/ewg2002">http://www.poliba.it/ewg2002</a>
21-23/08/02	EWG	The 4th International Conference for the Practice and Theory of Automated Timetabling Gent, Belgium ekb@cs.nott.ac.uk <a href="http://project.kahosl.be/patat2002/">http://project.kahosl.be/patat2002/</a>
23/08-1/09/02	ESWI	EURO Summer Institute XX Grainau, Germany EsiXX@bwl.tu-darmstadt.de
27-28/09/02	EWG	MODEST, Modelling of economies and societies in transition Warsaw, Poland nahorski@ibspan.waw.pl, owsinski@ibspan.waw.pl <a href="http://www.euro-online.org/wg/modest.html">http://www.euro-online.org/wg/modest.html</a>
6-10/07/03	EURO-k	EURO XIX Istanbul, Turkey Istanbul2003@boun.edu.tr
4-7/07/04	EURO-k	EURO XX Rhodes, Greece

We have the pleasure to announce the  
**12th Mini-EURO Conference**  
**Brussels, Belgium**  
**April 2-5, 2002**

on the following themes and under the responsibility of the persons listed below:

**Decision Support Systems (DSS) - P. Zaraté**  
**E-and Mobile Commerce (EMC) - T. Jelassi**  
**Multicriteria Decision Aid (MCDA) - M. Roubens**  
**Human-Centered Processes (HCP) - G. Coppin**  
**Ethical Dilemmas in Decision-Making (ETH) - JP. Brans**

A tutorial day on E and M-Commerce will be organised on April 2, 2002.

For more information, please visit the conference website at the following address:  
<http://www.DSS.Brussels-2002.vub.ac.be>

The above themes present important issues and major challenges for both researchers and practitioners. Furthermore, the related business, technological and socio-economic implications are relevant for a large variety of industries and sectors. This conference aims at addressing these issues from a conceptual as well as from an application point of view, and advancing the existing body of knowledge within the scope of the selected themes.

It is also the first conference in Europe combining Human and Ethical aspects with efficient Decision Making.

In recognition of your international prominence in one or more of the above themes, we would greatly appreciate it if you could help us to promote this event and disseminate information about it among relevant parties. In any case we invite you to participate and to present a paper or a session of 3 papers (possibly chaired by you).

Warm regards,

J.P. Brans, T. Jelassi, G Coppin, M.Roubens, P Zaraté