

EURAM SURVEY: ACTIVITIES AND CONFERENCE REARRANGEMENTS DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Results of the members' survey, June 10, 2020

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Survey background and purpose

- **Background**

- Pandemic situation in Europe: difficult to predict how the virus will spread and whether traveling will or will not be possible for the intended EURAM conference in December.
- Need for information on how the Covid-19 pandemic evolves and affects universities and our members.

- **Purpose: to collect information on**

- The national, institutional and personal issues affecting our members' participation in the December conference, and
- Members' expectations toward possible other EURAM activities during this year.

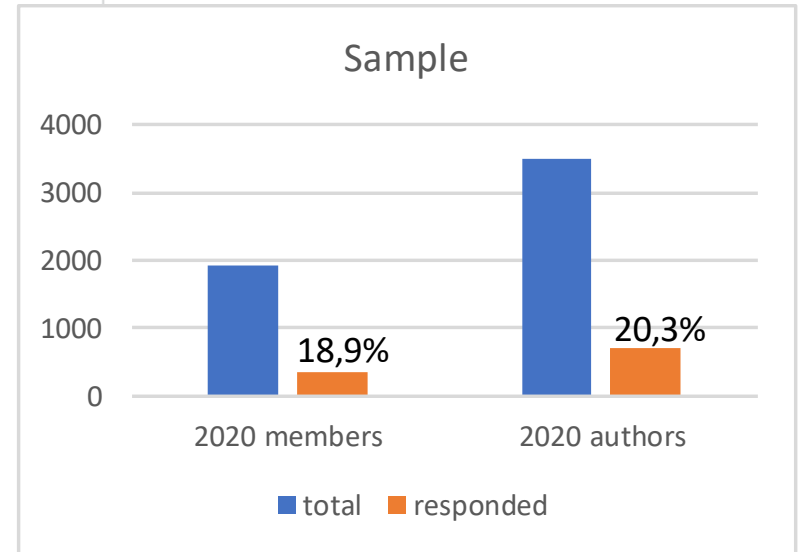
- **Implementation**

- SurveyMonkey survey
- Open 12 - 19 May
- Possibly another survey later, to continue monitoring the situation

Data: 926 responses over 4.037 recipients (response rate 23%)

Invitations ?

- 2,237 opened (55.4%)
- 1,770 unopened (43.8%)
- 25 bounced (0.6%)
- 1,113 clicked through (27.6%) ?
- 5 opted out (0.1%) ?



(note: members and authors partially overlap)

Structure of the questionnaire and the results

A) Preferences concerning on-site vs. on-line conference

B) Factors affecting decision making concerning on-site vs. on-line

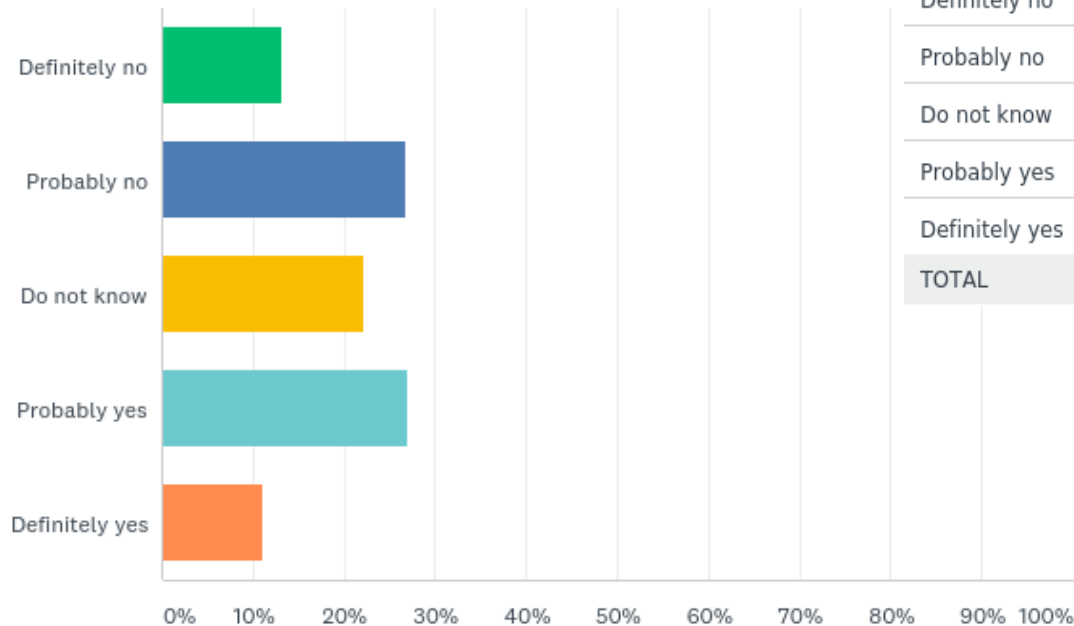
C) Interest in virtual activities during June-October

D) Other ideas and comments

E) Background of respondents

Q1: Do you plan to attend any academic events or conferences live on-site (with physical presence) this year?

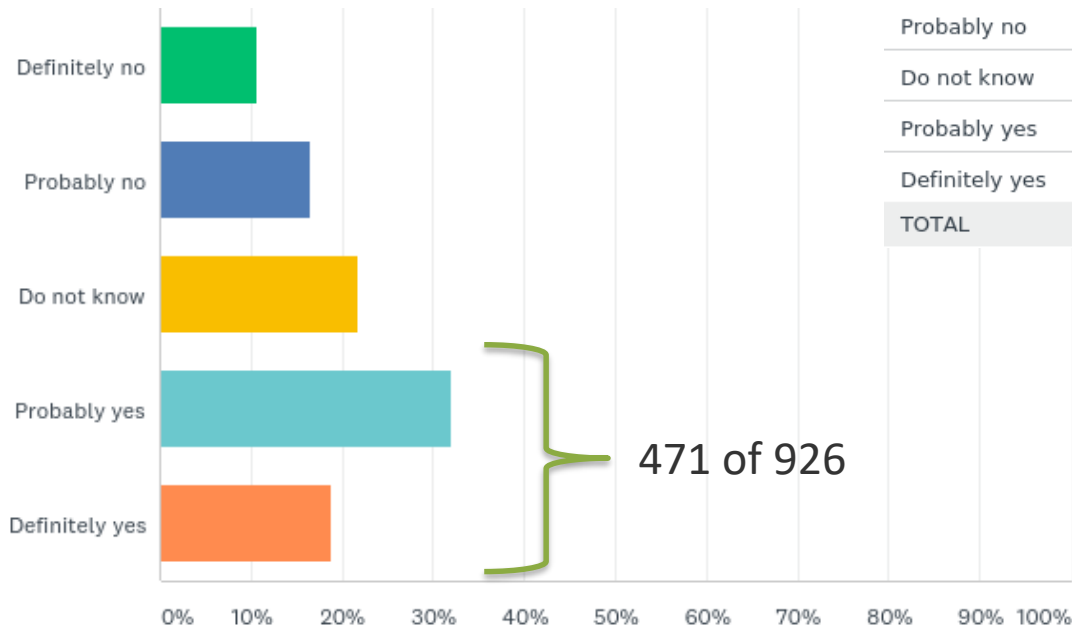
Answered: 926 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Definitely no	13.17% 122
Probably no	26.67% 247
Do not know	22.14% 205
Probably yes	27.00% 250
Definitely yes	11.02% 102
TOTAL	926

Q2: If a live, on-site EURAM conference is organised in Dublin on 4-6 December, do you plan to attend?

Answered: 926 Skipped: 0

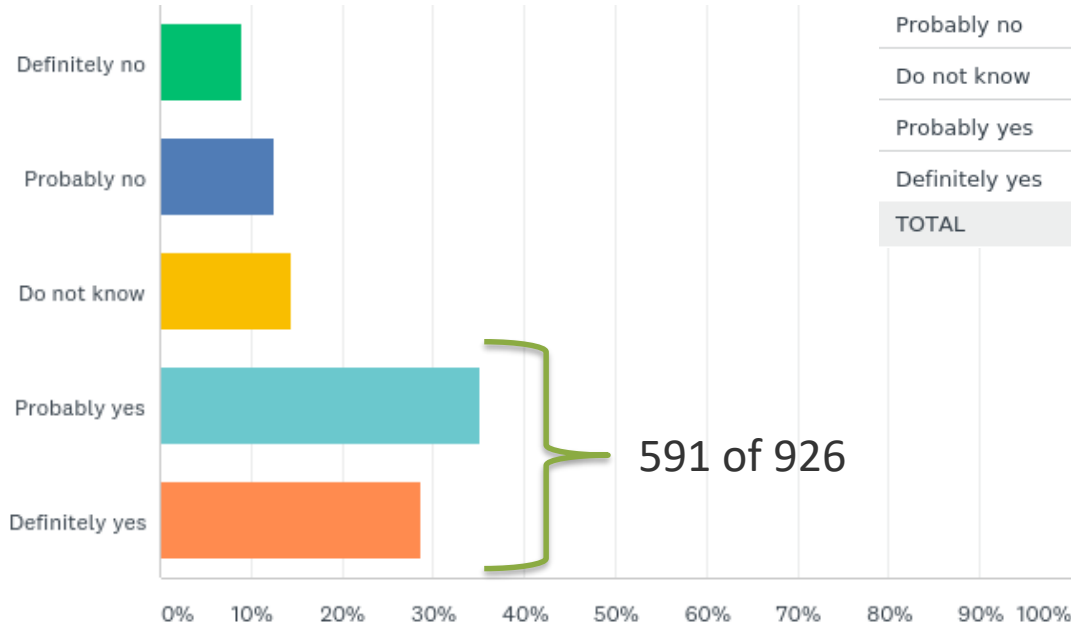


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Definitely no	10.69% 99
Probably no	16.63% 154
Do not know	21.81% 202
Probably yes	32.07% 297
Definitely yes	18.79% 174
TOTAL	926

If a virtual, on-line EURAM conference is organised instead of the on-site conference, do you plan to attend?

Q3: If the dates are 4-6 December (over the weekend)

Answered: 926 Skipped: 0

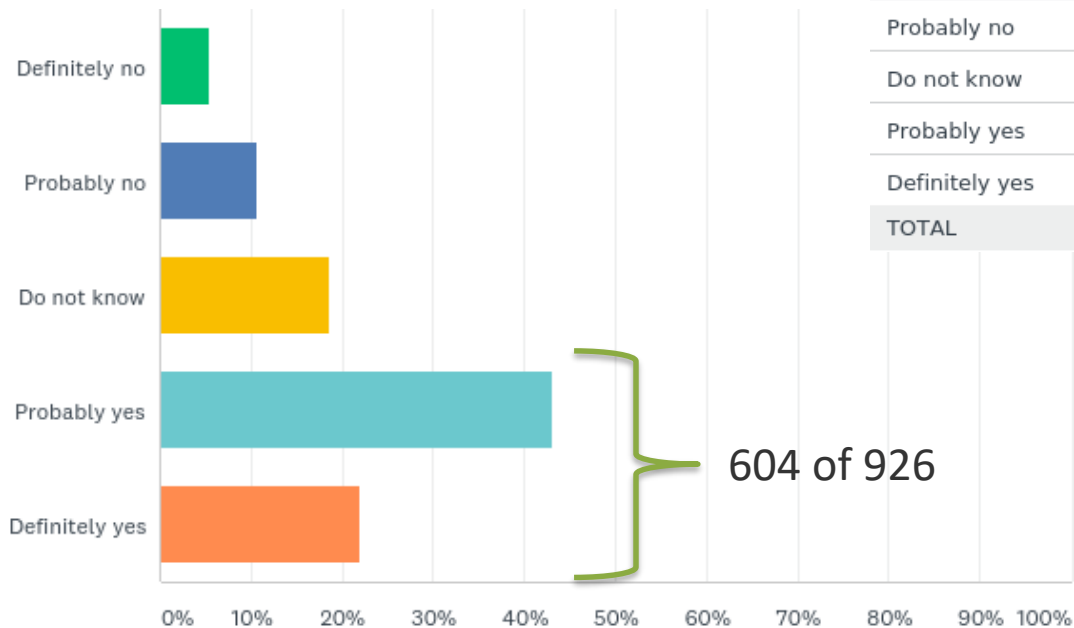


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Definitely no	9.07% 84
Probably no	12.63% 117
Do not know	14.47% 134
Probably yes	35.21% 326
Definitely yes	28.62% 265
TOTAL	926

If a virtual, on-line EURAM conference is organised instead of the on-site conference, do you plan to attend?

Q4: If the dates are other dates in December (on weekdays)

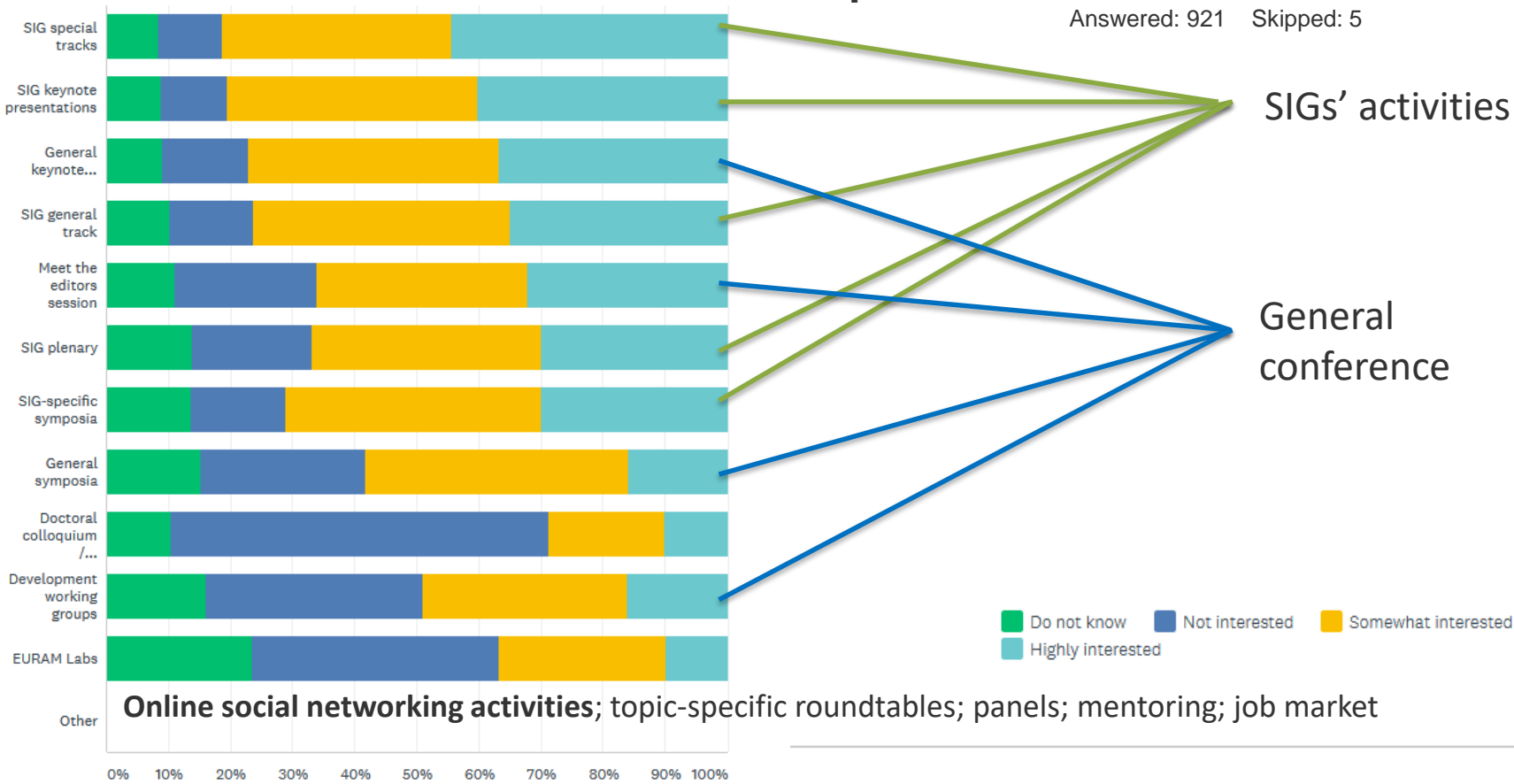
Answered: 926 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Definitely no	5.40% 50
Probably no	10.69% 99
Do not know	18.68% 173
Probably yes	43.20% 400
Definitely yes	22.03% 204
TOTAL	926

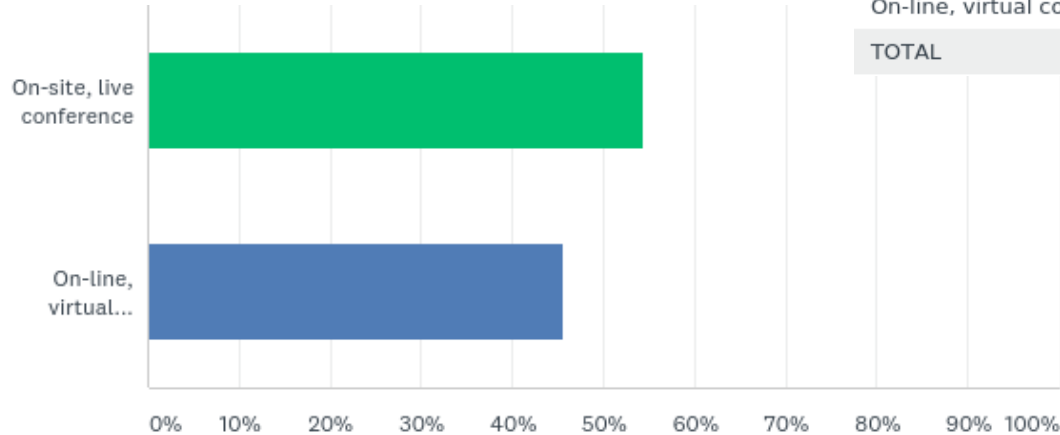
If a virtual, on-line EURAM conference is organised instead of the on-site conference, do you plan to attend?

Q5: Which activities would you like to attend in a virtual on-line conference? SIG = strategic interest aroup



Q6: Which of the two do you prefer now (over six months before the conference)?

Answered: 926 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
On-site, live conference	54.43% 504
On-line, virtual conference	45.57% 422
TOTAL	926

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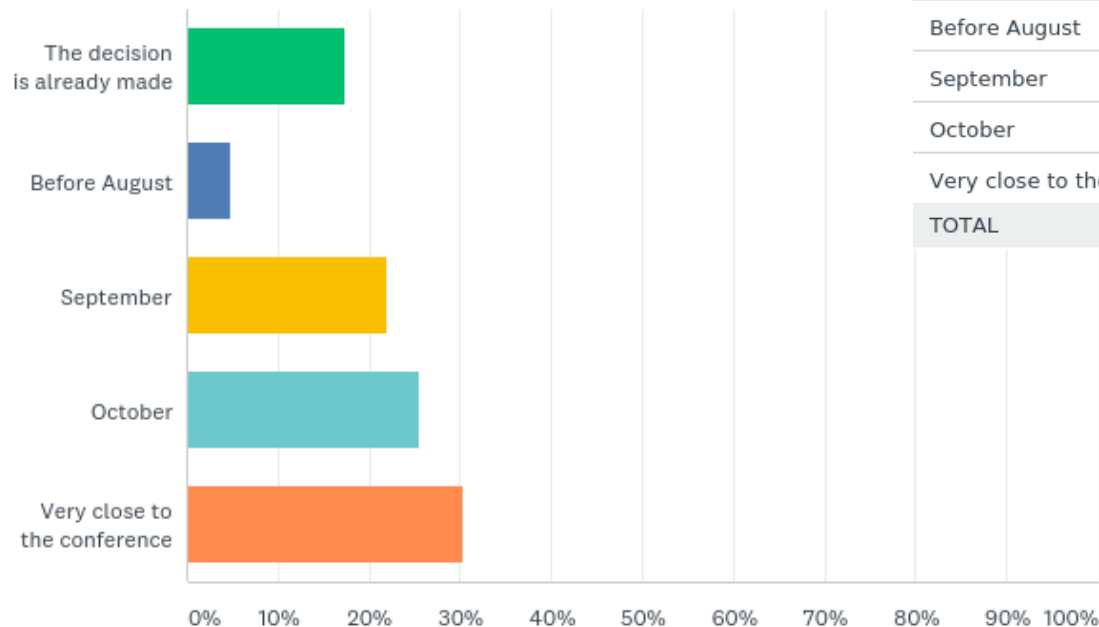
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Q7: If an on-site conference is organised in Dublin 4-6 December, 2020, when will you make the decision to attend?

Answered: 926 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
The decision is already made	17.39%	161
Before August	4.75%	44
September	22.03%	204
October	25.59%	237
Very close to the conference	30.24%	280
TOTAL		926

Q8: Which factors will affect your decision to attend the on-site conference? Select the most important three:

Answered: 926 Skipped: 0



Issues outside of our control

Q8 Which factors will affect your decision to attend the on-site conference? “Other”

Financial issues: uncertainty on available funds for conferences (“allowances are frozen”) (18)

Travel-related issues: visa; local development of covid-19 in Ireland; Ireland cold in December; flight availability; uncertainty about if traveling is allowed from one’s home country (12)

Health issues: avoidance of social contacts; being in a risk group; unavailability of treatment and vaccines; ongoing recovery from virus; fear of getting sick; possible quarantine after travel (10)

Personal issues: young children; relocation; ending of work contract (5)

Other: increased workload; timing between Thanksgiving and Christmas and at term end; other participants’ decisions; necessity (as track chairs); “basically on-site conferences are just the past, and not eco-friendly and cost-efficient whatsoever” (6)

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Q9: If EURAM were to organise virtual activities during June – October, which activities are you interested in participating and/or organising? SIG = Strategic Interest Group. Mark your interest also to be involved in organising the activity

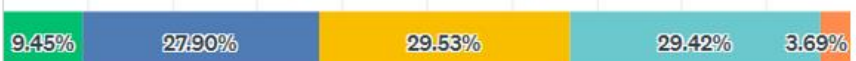
Paper development session (in the domain of a SIG)



Meet the editors sessions (in the domain of a SIG)



Professional development workshop (e.g. good presentation; good review; method; career issues)



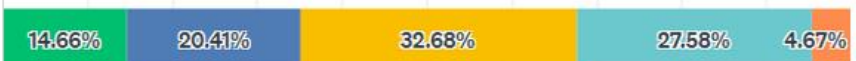
SIG community meeting or plenary



Roundtable (in the domain of a SIG)



Symposium (in the domain of a SIG)



Webinar on some general management topic



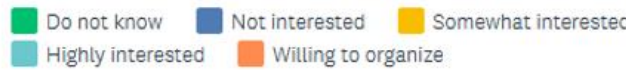
Doctoral candidate's mentoring session



Post-doctoral researchers' mentoring session



Answered: 921 Skipped: 5



Q9. Virtual activities in June-October, "other"

Paper development workshop

One-on-One SIG track pre-select resource-person networking

Webinars, symposia

Networking activities

Advice for job search and COVID-19 concerns

Virtual program track building

Concerns / issues regarding on-line arrangements

Some people are strictly not interested to attend on-line conferences

Security

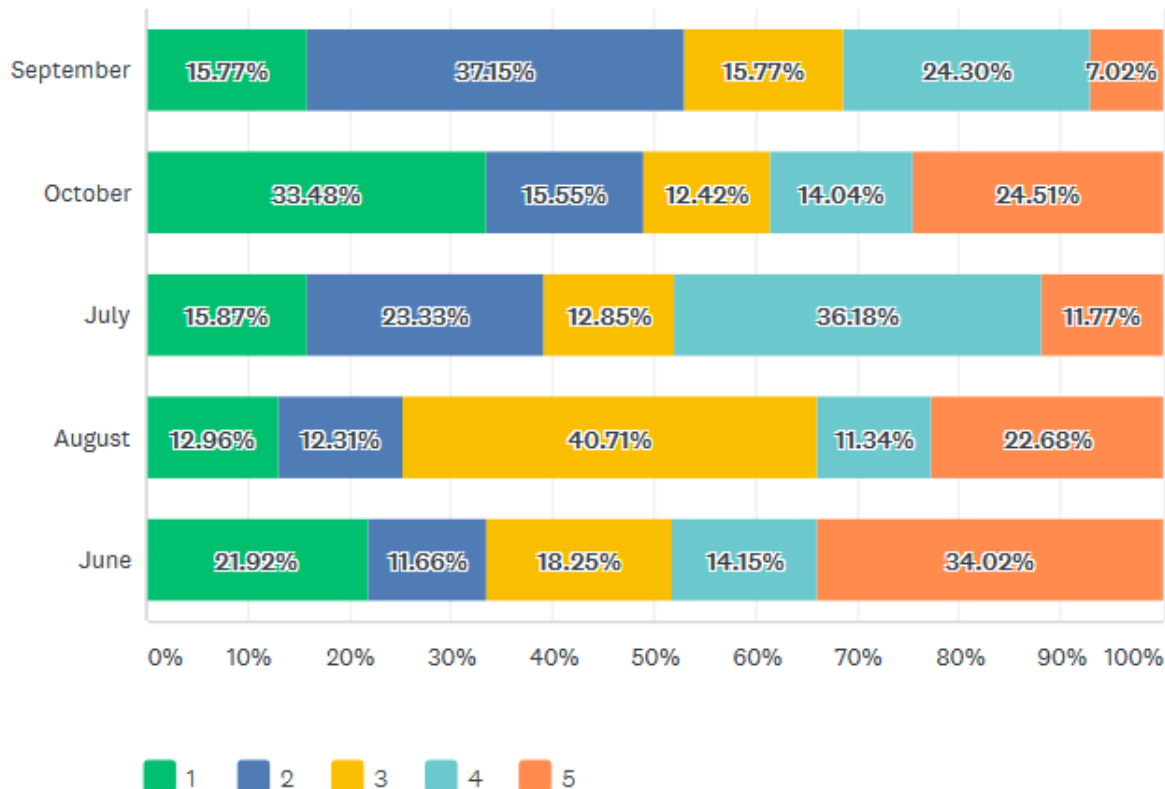
Technical conditions / connections

Fee - not all institutions can fund participation in virtual activities

June-October not a viable option for virtual activities for some people
(vacations + teaching)

Q10: If EURAM organises some of the above activities, what times do you prefer (mark 1 for the highest suitability, 5 for the lowest suitability):

Answered: 926 Skipped: 0



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Q12 Other ideas and comments concerning the possible rearrangements for EURAM 2020 conference and other activities during this year

Four scenarios based on the responses:

Dublin December –
postpone the decision to
July/August
21 comments

Dublin later –
postpone the
conference again
15 comments

All virtual at least this
year – let's not take any
risks
35 comments

Something else –
cancel or think more
creatively
10 comments

Q12 Other ideas and comments concerning the possible rearrangements for EURAM 2020 conference and other activities during this year

Dublin December – postpone the decision to July/August

- "Only a physical conference makes sense"; "please keep the on-site conference"
- The pandemic should be past in the fall
- Online option will not give the benefit
- Organize more flexibly, with a smaller nr of participants
- Take care of safety
- Celebrate for recovery
- Some respondents propose reopening submission and review, to add participants

Dublin later (2021→)– postpone the conference again

- "If not in December, then 2021 in Dublin would be great"
- People are waiting to spend quality time together in Dublin
- Spring or June 2021
- Visa issues for long-distance participants are important
- Some respondents propose just postponing and keeping the same papers; others mention that the papers of this year will be outdated (or submitted elsewhere) by next June

Q12 Other ideas and comments concerning the possible rearrangements for EURAM 2020 conference and other activities during this year

All virtual at least this year – let's not take any risks

- "If not on-site, then at least on-line"; "If needed, I am willing to contribute..." vs. "If it is virtual, I will not attend".
- Uncertainties are currently emphasized and many would prefer an online option; universities may discourage travel
- People may be more likely to participate without a paper
- Some respondents gave examples of good practices in online arrangements – on-line can be successful!
- Wish for some form of networking, besides formal sessions
- Need to differentiate from other on-line events
- **Concerns/issues to handle:** Price and affordability/funding access of virtual activities; time-zone differences (Australia, Far East, Americas...); nr of participants in a virtual activity needs to be limited; virtual meetings are very strenuous and need to be short; possible overlap with teaching/exams; creativity needed – it is not the same as on-site!

Something else – cancel or think more creatively

- "Just cancel it", "let it go"
- Have a shorter version online
- Allow people to self-organize around topics
- On-line and virtual in parallel
- Adjust the theme to Covid-19
- Maybe simulate people to make an academic hackathon

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Q13: Your country of residence (slide 1 / 2)

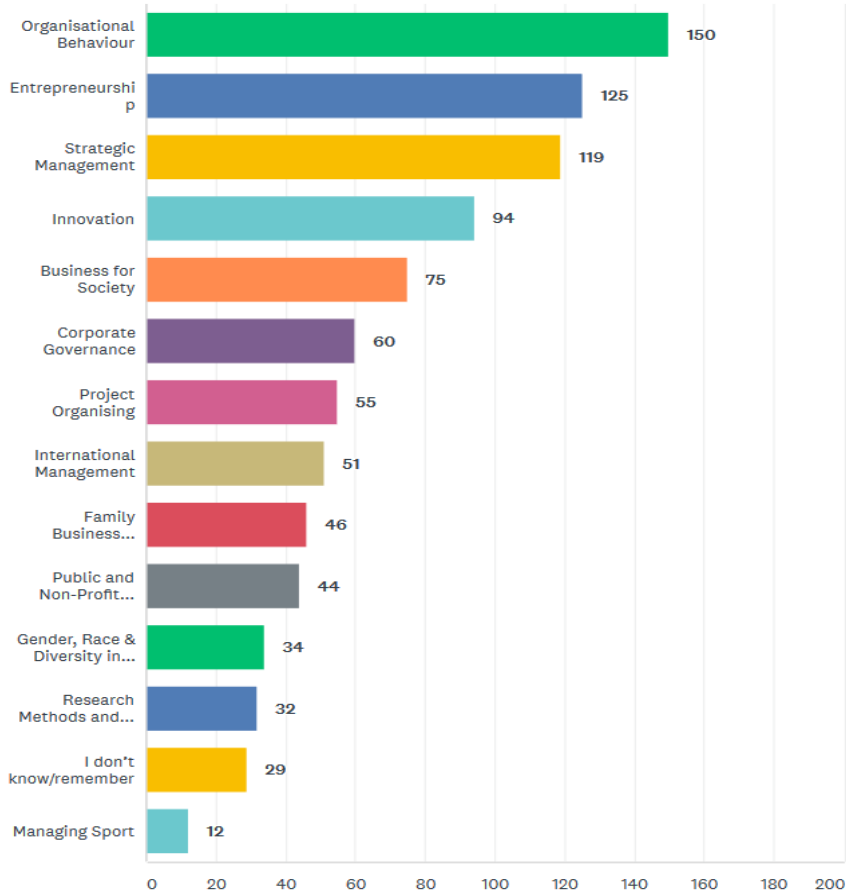
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
▼ Italy	11.66% 108
▼ Germany	11.34% 105
▼ UK	9.72% 90
▼ France	9.07% 84
▼ Spain	6.16% 57
▼ USA	4.54% 42
▼ Netherlands	3.78% 35
▼ Poland	3.02% 28
▼ Finland	2.59% 24
▼ Sweden	2.38% 22
▼ Ireland	2.27% 21
▼ Australia	2.16% 20
▼ Portugal	2.16% 20
▼ Austria	2.05% 19
▼ Canada	2.05% 19
▼ Switzerland	1.94% 18
▼ Brazil	1.84% 17
▼ India	1.84% 17
▼ China	1.62% 15
▼ Belgium	1.51% 14
▼ Denmark	1.51% 14
▼ Greece	1.30% 12
▼ Taiwan Region	1.30% 12

Answered: 926 Skipped: 0

Q13: Your country of residence (slide 2 / 2)

▼ Norway		1.19%	11
▼ Other	Responses	1.19%	11
▼ New Zealand		0.97%	9
▼ Turkey		0.97%	9
▼ Israel		0.76%	7
▼ United Arab Emirates		0.76%	7
▼ Hungary		0.65%	6
▼ Lithuania		0.54%	5
▼ Russia		0.54%	5
▼ Japan		0.43%	4
▼ Pakistan		0.43%	4
▼ Slovenia		0.43%	4
▼ Czech Republic		0.32%	3
▼ Iceland		0.32%	3
▼ Mexico		0.32%	3
▼ Chile		0.22%	2
▼ Hong Kong		0.22%	2
▼ Morocco		0.22%	2
▼ Nigeria		0.22%	2
▼ Romania		0.22%	2
▼ South Africa		0.22%	2

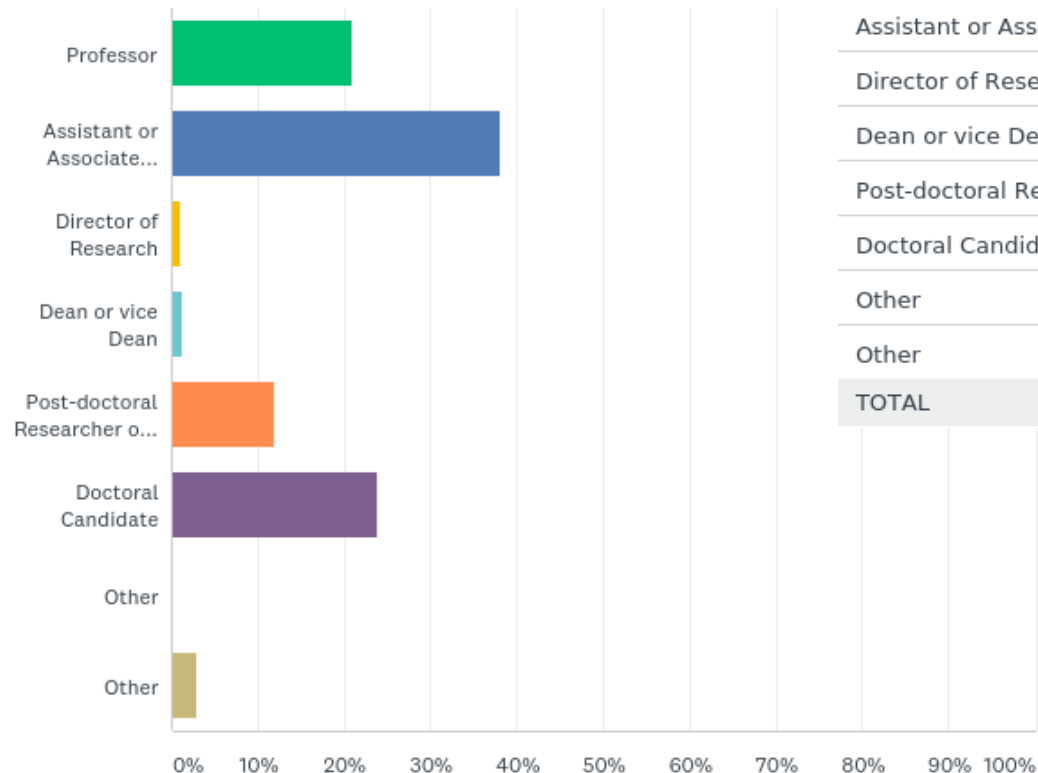
Q14: Your primary SIG (strategic interest group):



Answered: 926 Skipped: 0

Q15: Your job position (dropdown menu, choose one):

Answered: 926 Skipped: 0

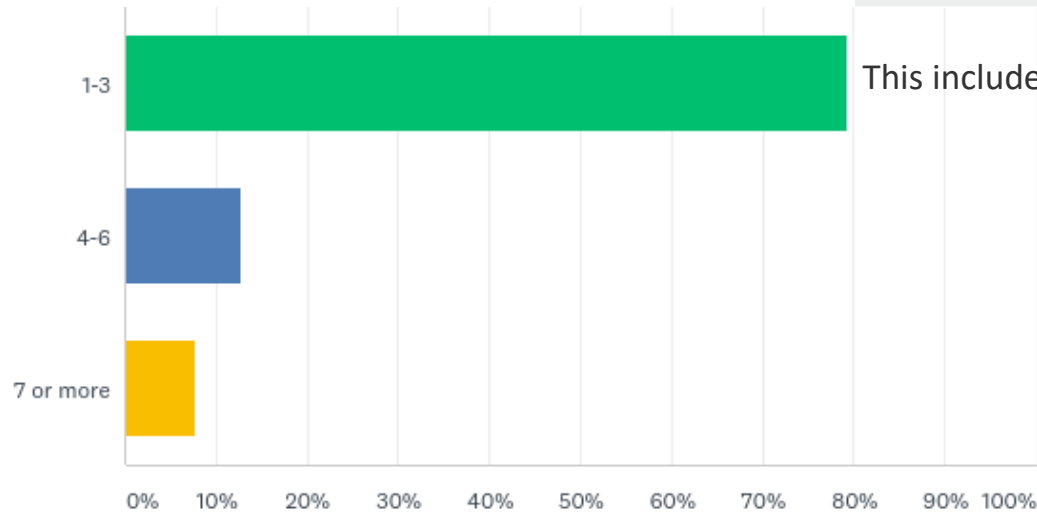


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Professor	20.84%	193
Assistant or Associate Professor	38.12%	353
Director of Research	1.08%	10
Dean or vice Dean	1.30%	12
Post-doctoral Researcher or Lecturer	11.88%	110
Doctoral Candidate	23.87%	221
Other	0.00%	0
Other	2.92%	27
TOTAL		926

Q16: How many times have you participated in EURAM conferences before:

Answered: 926 Skipped: 0

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
1-3	79.37%	735
4-6	12.85%	119
7 or more	7.78%	72
TOTAL		926



This includes also those who wanted to respond "0"