

EURO Bulletin

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EURO Brochure

EURO Bulletin is happy to present the new version of the EURO Brochure edited by the EURO Secretary Professor Denis Bouyssou.

This completely reframed edition of the EURO Brochure is the result of a lot of work and contacts with past EURO Officers and past organizers of EURO activities. This document is in a way a materialisation of the memory of EURO. All data have been consolidated and updated as far as possible.

Furthermore new materials have been included, you will even find a definition of Operational Research.

The hard copy version of the EURO Brochure has a sister version in electronic format which is made available on EURO NET through INTERNET.
http://www.ulb.ac.be/euro/euro_welcome.html

The electronic version of the EURO Brochure will be updated on a short term basis and its hard copy version on a long term basis (e.g. more than one year).

In the future EURO Bulletin will present other issues centered on a given theme e.g. : EWG Annual Report, EURO Directory.

Ph. Van Asbroeck
EURO Bulletin Editor

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PROPOSAL FOR A WORKING GROUP ON HIERARCHICAL ORGANISATIONAL

In August 1993, a European Summer Institute (ESI) was held on Hierarchical Planning resulting in the publication of a special issue of the European Journal of Operational Research (EJOR). Hierarchical planning was not discussed in the narrow interpretation of Hierarchical Production Planning but rather within the broader perspective of a particular asymmetric structuring of a general planning system. In fact, the focus was on hierarchical structures in organisations (see the introductory paper in EJOR, 86, 1 (1995)). Consequently, the Summer Institute discussed problems of hierarchical algorithms, hierarchical production planning, and general hierarchical planning as well as hierarchical negotiations, contract and principal agent theoretical questions.

In continuation of the Summer Institute, many former participants and interested colleagues urged me to initiate a European Working Group as it has been done for several other European Summer Institutes. To emphasise the broader scope of such a group, the focus should not simply be on Hierarchical Planning but on

planning in a multi-level-multi-agent decision making situation. Hence, the expression "Hierarchical Organisational Planning" seems to be adequate to describe the broader view of Hierarchical Planning. In addition, the term "organisational" points to the fact that mathematical organisational theory needs more attention within the OR community.

Hierarchical Planning, understood as multi-level-multi-agent planning, essentially comprises four types of planning activities :

1. Planning within a given hierarchical structure of an organisation;
2. Negotiations within a given hierarchical structure of an organisation;
3. Planning within the leadership context of an organisation;
4. Designing an organisational structure.

1. Planning within a given hierarchical structure comprises all kinds of hierarchical planning models. These models mainly differ in the degree of hierarchical integration and in the number of

EURO Working Group

decision makers being involved. Pure top-down structures within the classical area of hierarchical production planning or plans where the upper level anticipates the lower level's behaviour are typical examples. Within a multi-person setting agency and contract theoretical problems applied, e.g., to supply chain questions or 'behavioural' cost accounting are further examples. In addition, coordination problems of the Dantzig-Wolfe or the Benders type belong to (1) as well as general questions of aggregation and disaggregation.

2. Negotiations within a hierarchically structured organisation need a particular way of how to model the different decision rights of the involved parties. They will often be part of a comprehensive planning process.

3. Taking into account leadership activities addresses behavioural aspects. The leader and those who are led form a hierarchy. Hence, the important problem of implementation within a multi-person setting has to be considered as a hierarchical problem. Quite generally, the planning procedure has to anticipate leadership activities that are going to be applied to implement the plan.

4. The design problem can be considered as a complex hierarchical planning problem. In

designing special features of a system, like flexibility or productivity, one has on a tactical level to build up 'potentials' which are later used on the (lower) operational level.

The described 4 types of planning activities will often be used in one and the same comprehensive planning and implementation problem. Thus negotiations will be necessary before a final hierarchical plan is passed, and, in addition, the plan has to take into account possible implementation activities.

Hierarchical Organisation Planning (HOP) can provide a forum within which problems as described in (1) to (4) can be discussed.

A first meeting of the proposed EWG on Hierarchical Organisation Planning will be held during the **EURO/INFORMS conference in Barcelona, July 14-17, 1997**. Those being interested are kindly invited to attend the meeting. The presentation of a paper treating a problem within one of the above mentioned areas would be appreciated.

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NEW EURO WORKING GROUP ON ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

Web page : <http://www.unipi.gr/gaia/gaia.htm>

During the last decades, environmental problems have given rise to complex decision issues, which are receiving increasing social attention and are becoming more and more important, not only for human welfare, but even for human survival. Involvement in Environmental Planning decisions has become a major challenge for OR Issues of methodology and applications of OR concerning environmental decision making include among others :

- Environmental decision support systems;
- Environmental impact assessment;
- Environmental issues in business strategy;
- Environmental issues in production management and control;
- Environmental forecasting;
- Monitoring networks;
- Locational analysis;
- Risk and reliability;
- Environmental review, auditing and reporting;
- Life cycle analysis;
- Ecodesign;
- Environmental marketing and communication.

Based on the above, a new EURO Working Group on Environmental Planning has been recently established, after an application to EURO Executive Committee of the participants of the 14th EURO SUMMER INSTITUTE on Environmental Planning, which was organised in Greece in June 1996.

The main objective of the Group is to encourage communication and research between members of EURO members societies specializing in Environmental Planning. Future planned activities include:

- Exchange of information (working papers, related books, newsletter, etc.);
- Invitation to other organisations and professional associations concerned with Environmental Planning to participate or establish connections to the EURO Working Group on Environmental Planning;
- Exchange of researchers between European countries;
- Organising meetings;
- Creation of Project Proposals in the field of Environmental Planning;
- Construction of a WEB site (including a mailing list) 12 specialized in Environmental Planning, which will promote the EURO Working Group on Environmental Planning in order to attract new individual members and institutions or organisations;
- Organising a EURO Mini-Conference on Environmental Planning;
- Organising sessions on Environmental Planning in EURO Conferences.

Active Co-ordinator of the Group is :

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All OR colleagues who would like to join the Group are welcome!

Costas Pappis

EURO Brochure

EURO Brochure is published by the Association of European Operational Research Societies (EURO), edited by Denis Bouyssou and printed by EURO Office.

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What is EURO

What is EURO ?

EURO is *The Association of European Operational Research Societies within IFORS* (the International Federation of Operational Research Societies). It is a 'not-for-profit' association domiciled in Fribourg, Switzerland. Its affairs are regulated by a Council consisting of representatives/alternates of all its members and an Executive Committee which constitutes its board of directors. Its aim is to promote Operational Research throughout Europe.



What is IFORS ?

IFORS, the International Federation of Operational Research Societies, was founded in 1959 by Operational Research Society (UK), Operations Research Society of America (USA), and Société de Recherche Operationnelle (F) as a formal framework for international cooperation within Operational Research.

IFORS is an international organization of national societies whose primary objective is the advancement of Operational Research. Its aims are the development of Operational Research as a unified science and its advancement in all nations of the world.

Presently the members of IFORS are the national OR Societies of 44 countries (plus 4 Kindred Members) which form the major parts of four

What is IFORS?

regional groupings :

EURO, The Association of European Operational Research Societies within IFORS (founded in 1975).

ALIO, Asociacion Latino-Ibero-Americana de Investigacion Operativa (founded in 1982): besides Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Mexico, Portugal, and Spain, which are member countries of IFORS, ALIO has contact groups in Bolivia, Columbia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Guatemala, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela.

APORS, The Association of Asian-Pacific Operational Research Societies within IFORS (founded in 1985): ASOR (Australia), ORSC (China), ORSHK (Hong Kong), ORSI (India), ORSJ (Japan), KORS (Korea), MSORSM (Malaysia), ORSNZ (New Zealand), ORSP (Philippines), ORSS (Singapore).

NORAM, The Association of North American Operations Research Societies within IFORS (founded in 1987): CORS/SCRO (Canada), INFORMS (United States of America).

IFORS publishes :

- a bulletin;
- two newsletters : Developing Countries and Education (presently inactive);
- the International Abstracts in Operations Research (IAOR), a journal designed to provide full coverage of Operational Research by publishing abstracts of paper published in speciality journals in the field as well as in some related fields;

What is O.R.?

- the International Transactions in Operational Research (ITOR), an international journal published four times a year. ITOR contains paper from the triennial conferences and the Special Interest Conferences (IFORS-SPC).

It organizes :

- a triennial International Conference. The 14th triennial Conference will be held in Vancouver, Canada, July 8-12 1996;
- Special Interest Conferences (IFORS-SPC). The next IFORS-SPC Conference will be held in Riga in September 1996.

IFORS cooperates with its sister societies : IFAC (International Federation of Automatic Control), IFIP (International Federation for Information Processing), IMACS (International Association for Mathematics and Computers in Simulation) and IMEKO (International Measurement Confederation).

More information concerning the activities of IFORS can be obtained from the Secretariat of IFORS :

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What is Operational Research ?

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

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

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



A short history of EURO

A Short History of EURO

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

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

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

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

1. The representatives agreed that it would be advisable to formalize and

institutionalize increased European cooperation. To this end a possible agreement between the European OR societies was drafted and it was the general consensus that such an agreement could be signed by the societies in the near future.

2. It was furthermore agreed to assemble operational researchers from all Western European countries within the framework of the First European Conference on Operational Research.

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

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

Member Societies

IFORS, by signing an agreement in which the signatories resolved :

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

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

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



The member societies of EURO

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

EURO has presently 28 members :

Austria
Belgium
Bulgaria
Croatia
Czech Republic
Denmark
Egypt
Finland
France
Germany
Great Britain
Greece
Hungary
Iceland
Ireland
Israel
Italy
Netherlands
Norway
Poland
Portugal
Slovak Republic
South Africa
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
Turkey
Yugoslavia

What is EURO doing?

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



What is EURO doing ?

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

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

Three additional instruments were introduced in 1983 :

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

The following instruments were introduced in 1994 :

Who does what is EURO?

- the EURO Prime (Up') Conferences;
- the EURO Fellowships;
- the Eastern European Conference Initiative;
- General Support funds.

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



Who does what in EURO ?

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

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

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

- the organization of EURO-k Conferences;
- the organization of EURO Summer and Winter Institutes;

Executive Committee

- the Education and Training programmes in OR.

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

- the organization of EURO Working Groups;
- the organization of Mini EURO Conferences;
- the organization of EURO Prime (Up) Conferences.

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

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

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

The Executive Committee presently consists of the following members :

President

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President Elect

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Executive Committee

Euro Association

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Past Presidents

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



The EURO Association

EURO is a 'not-for-profit' association domiciled in Fribourg, Switzerland. Its affairs are regulated by a Council consisting of representatives/alternates of all its members and an Executive Committee which constitutes its board of directors.

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

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

The previous members of the Executive Committee are indicated on page 10 (it is understood that the immediate Past-President attends the Executive Committee for one year). Without their benevolent active involvement in EURO, the Association could not have survived.



*Please go to page
10 for list of
previous members*

EURO-k Conferences

The EURO-k Conferences

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

National OR societies which are full members of EURO are regularly invited to submit proposals to host future EURO-k Conferences. Guidelines for the organization of such events can be obtained from the Secretary or the Vice President 1. Bids for hosting a EURO-k Conference in a specific year should be made at least two years before the date of the meeting. The decision is made by EURO Council. As part of the selection process, EURO attempts to balance the location of successive conferences in terms of geography (so that no specific part of Europe is ignored) and between large and small societies.

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

EURO-k Conferences can be organized in cooperation with other associations such as INFORMS. In each such case, a special agreement between EURO and the guest association must be prepared. The following table lists the past EURO-k Conferences. The forthcoming EURO XV Conference is scheduled in Barcelona, Spain in July 1997.



*Please go to page
11 and 12 for list of
EURO-k conferences*

PREVIOUS MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Date : 1975

President : H.J. Zimmermann (D)
 Vice-President : G. Kreweras (F)
 Past President :
 President Elect :
 Secretary : R. T. Eddison (GB)
 Treasurer : J.P. Brans (B)
 Vice-President 1 :
 Vice-President 2 :

Date : 1976

President : H.J. Zimmermann (D)
 Vice-President : G. Kreweras (F)
 Past President :
 President Elect :
 Secretary : R. T. Eddison (GB)
 Treasurer : J.P. Brans (B)
 Vice-President 1 :
 Vice-President 2 :

Date : 1977

President : H.J. Zimmermann (D)
 Vice-President : G. Kreweras (F)
 Past President :
 President Elect :
 Secretary : R. T. Eddison (GB)
 Treasurer : J.P. Brans (B)
 Vice-President 1 :
 Vice-President 2 :

Date : 1978

President : H.J. Zimmermann (D)
 Vice-President : G. Kreweras (F)
 Past President :
 President Elect :
 Secretary : R. T. Eddison (GB)
 Treasurer : J.P. Brans (B)
 Vice-President 1 :
 Vice-President 2 :

Date : 1979

President : B. Rapp (S)
 Vice-President : G. Kreweras (F)
 Past President : H.J. Zimmermann (D)
 President Elect :
 Secretary : R. T. Eddison (GB)
 Treasurer : J.P. Brans (B)
 Vice-President 1 :
 Vice-President 2 :

Date : 1980

President : B. Rapp (S)
 Vice-President : G. Kreweras (F)
 Past President :
 President Elect : R. Tomlinson (GB)
 Secretary : R. T. Eddison (GB)
 Treasurer : J.P. Brans (B)
 Vice-President 1 :
 Vice-President 2 :

Date : 1981

President : R. Tomlinson (GB)
 Vice-President : J. Krarup (DK)
 Past President : B. Rapp (S)
 President Elect :
 Secretary : E. Jaquet-Lagrèze (F)
 Treasurer : J.P. Brans (B)
 Vice-President 1 :
 Vice-President 2 :

Date : 1982

President : R. Tomlinson (GB)
 Vice-President : J. Krarup (DK)
 Past President :
 President Elect : J.P. Brans (B)
 Secretary : E. Jaquet-Lagrèze (F)
 Treasurer : J.P. Brans (B)
 Vice-President 1 :
 Vice-President 2 :

Date : 1983

President : J.P. Brans (B)
 Vice-President : J. Krarup (DK)
 Past President : R. Tomlinson (GB)
 President Elect :
 Secretary : D. Xerocostas (GR)
 Treasurer : J. Pasquier (CH)
 Vice-President 1 :
 Vice-President 2 :

Date : 1984

President : J.P. Brans (B)
 Vice-President : J. Krarup (DK)
 Past President :
 President Elect : B. Roy (F)
 Secretary : D. Xerocostas (GR)
 Treasurer : J. Pasquier (CH)
 Vice-President 1 :
 Vice-President 2 :

Date : 1985

President : B. Roy (F)
 Vice-President : C. Schneeweiss (D)
 Past President : J.P. Brans (B)
 President Elect :
 Secretary : D. Xerocostas (GR)
 Treasurer : E. A. Field (GB)
 Vice-President 1 :
 Vice-President 2 :

Date : 1986

President : B. Roy (F)
 Vice-President : C. Schneeweiss (D)
 Past President :
 President Elect : D. de Werra (CH)
 Secretary : D. Xerocostas (GR)
 Treasurer : E. A. Field (GB)
 Vice-President 1 :
 Vice-President 2 :

Date : 1987

President : D. de Werra (CH)
 Vice-President : C. Schneeweiss (D)
 Past President : B. Roy (F)
 President Elect :
 Secretary : P. Toth (I)
 Treasurer : E. A. Field (GB)
 Vice-President 1 :
 Vice-President 2 :

Date : 1988

President : D. de Werra (CH)
 Vice-President : C. Schneeweiss (D)
 Past President :
 President Elect : J. Krarup (DK)
 Secretary : P. Toth (I)
 Treasurer : E. A. Field (GB)
 Vice-President 1 :
 Vice-President 2 :

Date : 1989

President : J. Krarup (DK)
 Vice-President : I. Themido (P)
 Past President : D. de Werra (CH)
 President Elect :
 Secretary : P. Toth (I)
 Treasurer : E. A. Field (GB)
 Vice-President 1 :
 Vice-President 2 :

Date : 1990

President : J. Krarup (DK)
 Vice-President : I. Themido (P)
 Past President :
 President Elect : J. Spronk (NL)
 Secretary : P. Toth (I)
 Treasurer : E. A. Field (GB)
 Vice-President 1 :
 Vice-President 2 :

Date : 1991

President : J. Spronk (NL)
 Vice-President : I. Themido (P)
 Past President : J. Krarup (DK)
 President Elect :
 Secretary : C. Roucairol (F)
 Treasurer : J. Bovet (CH)
 Vice-President 1 :
 Vice-President 2 :

Date : 1992

President : J. Spronk (NL)
 Vice-President : I. Themido (P)
 Past President :
 President Elect : M. F. Shutler (GB)
 Secretary : C. Roucairol (F)
 Treasurer : J. Bovet (CH)
 Vice-President 1 :
 Vice-President 2 :

Date : 1993

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

Date : 1994

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

Date : 1995

President : P. Toth (I)
 Vice-President :
 Past President : M. Shutler (GB)
 President Elect :
 Secretary : D. Bouyssou (F)
 Treasurer : M. Widmer (CH)
 Vice-President 1 : C. Pappis (GR)
 Vice-President 2 : T. Kinnunen (FI)
Permanent Secretariat : Ph. van Asbroeck (B)

Date : 1996

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

EURO-K CONFERENCES

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

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

Year : 1978
 Name : *IFORS 8*
 Date :
 Location : *Toronto*
 Country : *Canada*
 Number of delegates :
 Number of papers :
 Chair of PC :
 Chair of OC :

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

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

Year : 1981
 Name : *IFORS 9*
 Date :
 Location : *Hamburg*
 Country : *Germany*
 Number of delegates :
 Number of papers :
 Chair of PC :
 Chair of OC :

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

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

Year : 1984
 Name : *IFORS 10*
 Date :
 Location : *Washington DC*
 Country : *USA*
 Number of delegates :
 Number of papers :
 Chair of PC :
 Chair of OC :

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

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

EURO-K CONFERENCES CONTINUED

Year : 1987
 Name : *IFORS 11*
 Date :
 Location : *Buenos Aires*
 Country : *Argentina*
 Number of delegates :
 Number of papers :
 Chair of PC :
 Chair of OC :

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

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

Year : 1990
 Name : *IFORS 12*
 Date :
 Location : *Athens*
 Country : *Greece*
 Number of delegates :
 Number of papers :
 Chair of PC :
 Chair of OC :

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

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

Year : 1993
 Name : *IFORS 13*
 Date :
 Location : *Lisbon*
 Country : *Portugal*
 Number of delegates :
 Number of papers :
 Chair of PC :
 Chair of OC :

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

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

Year : 1996
 Name : *IFORS 14*
 Date :
 Location : *Vancouver*
 Country : *Canada*
 Number of delegates :
 Number of papers :
 Chair of PC :
 Chair of OC :

EURO Working Groups

The EURO Working Groups

History

Several EURO Working Groups (EWGs) were established at EURO 1 and have been active ever since. Others have followed in their wake and some have been dissolved. An account of the early history (up to 1983) can be found in J. Krarup, "Profiles of the European Working Groups", EJOR 15 (1984) 13-37.

Since 1993, the liaison officer between EURO and the EWGs is the Vice President 2. Each Spring issue of the EURO Bulletin contains a report of the activities of the EWGs prepared by Vice President 2 of EURO. The following overview of the EWGs is excerpted from the latest report.

EWGs in 1995

For small groups of researchers interested in a specific OR topic EURO provides an organizational framework in the form of EURO Working Groups (EWGs). These groups are a very important part of EURO. They represent in its best form continuity in research in EURO's activities. Active EWGs have a meeting at least once a year where the members exchange ideas, experiences and research results and support each other in the research work. In addition to their annual meetings the groups have also other ways of working; for example

they organize sessions in conferences, publish feature issues of the European Journal of Operational Research or other OR journals and organize conferences or seminars.

The list of existing EURO Working Groups follows.

Multicriteria Aid for Decisions

COORDINATOR : Prof. Bernard Roy, LAMSADE, Université de Paris - Dauphine, Place du Maréchal de Lattre de Tassigny, F-75775 Paris Cedex 16, France.

Tel.: (33) (1) 44 05 42 87

Fax: (33) (1) 44 05 40 91

E-mail: roy@lamsade.dauphine.fr.

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 283.

Fuzzy Sets / IFSA European Chapter

COORDINATOR: Dr. Hans Hellendoorn, Siemens AG, Dept. ZFE ST SN4, D-81730, Munich, Germany.

E-mail: hah@zfe.siemens.de

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 108

ORAHS - OR Applied to Health Services

COORDINATOR: Dr. David Clayden, BIOMED Project Leader, LRF Centre for Clinical Epidemiology, University of Leeds, 17 Springfield Mount, West Yorkshire LS1 9NG, United Kingdom.

Tel.: +1132 44 35 17,

Fax: +1132 42 60 65

E-mail: A.D.Clayden@leeds.ac.uk.

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 112 members from 22 countries (mostly European)

EUROBANKING special interest group

COORDINATOR: Mr. Fred Ridgway, Head of Management Services, Bank of Ireland, Head Office, Lower Baggot St, Dublin 2, Ireland.

Tel.: (353) (1) 66 15 933

Fax: (353) (1) 66 15 473

E-mail: fridgway@iol.ie

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: Over 100.

EURO Working Groups

Locational Analysis

COORDINATOR: Prof. Dr. Frank. Plastria, Center for Industrial Location, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Pleinlaan 2, B-1050 Brussels, Belgium.
 Tel.: +32 2 62 93 609
 Fax: +32 2 62 93 645
 E-mail: faplastr@vub.ac.be.
 NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 85.

ESIGMA - EURO Special Interest Group on Multicriteria Analysis

COORDINATOR: Prof. Carlos A. Bana e Costa, CESUR - IST, Av. Rovisco Pais, P-1096 Lisboa, Portugal.
 Tel. (351) (1) 80 95 80 or (351) (1) 80 97 05
 Fax: (351) (1) 80 98 84
 NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 226

Project Management and Scheduling

COORDINATORS: Prof. Luis Valadares Tavares, CESUR-IST, Av. Rovisco Pais, P-1096 Lisboa, Portugal.
 Tel.: (351) (1) 80 97 05 or (351) (1) 80 95 80
 fax: (351) (1) 80 98 84,
 telex: 63423 ISTUTL-P
 Prof. Jan Weglarz, Poznan University of Technology, Institute of Computing Science, Piotrowo 3 A, PL-60-965 Poznan, Poland,
 Tel : + 48 61 790790,
 Fax: +48 61 771525,
 E-mail: weglarz@pozn1v.tup.edu.pl
 NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 150.

Financial Modelling

COORDINATOR: Prof. Dr. Jaap Spronk, Erasmus University Rotterdam, Department of Finance, P.O. Box 1738, NL-3000 DR Rotterdam, The Netherlands.
 Tel.: (31) (10) 40 81 282
 Fax: (31) (10) 45 26 399
 E-mail: spronk@finbel.few.eur.nl.
 NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 242

ECCO European Chapter on Combinatorial Optimization

COORDINATOR: Prof. Catherine Roucairol, Université de Versailles & INRIA, 45 Avenue des Etats Unis, F-78000 Versailles, France.
 Tel.: (33) (1) 39 25 40 88,
 Fax: (33) (1) 39 25 20 57,
 E-mail: Catherine.Roucairol@prism.uvsq.fr.
 NUMBER OF MEMBERS: Approximately 350/100 at each meeting.

DSS - Decision Support Systems

COORDINATOR: Prof. Tawfik Jelassi, INSEAD, Boulevard de Constance, F-77305 Fontainebleau, France.
 Tel.: (33) (1) 60 72 40 17
 Fax: (33) (1) 60 72 40 49 or (33) (1) 60 72 42 42
 E-mail: jelassi@freiba51.bitnet
 NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 90

Transportation

COORDINATOR: Dr. Maurizio Bielli, Institute of Systems Analysis and Informatics, National Research Council, Viale Manzoni 30, I-00185 Rome, Italy.
 Tel. (39) (6) 77 161
 Fax: (39) (6) 77 16 461,
 E-mail: bielli@iasi.rm.cnr.it
 NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 100

Information Systems

COORDINATOR: Prof. Georgios I. Doukidis, Athens University of Economics and Business, Department of Informatics, 76 Patission Street, GR-10434 Athens, Greece.
 Tel. (30) (1) 82 33 523
 Fax: (30) (1) 82 26 204
 Telex: 225363 ASOE GR.
 NUMBER OF MEMBERS: About 80.

EURO Working Groups

ORNETWORK (EURO's network for practitioners)

COORDINATOR: Dr. Marc Salomon,
Erasmus University, Rotterdam School
of Management (F1-37), P.O. Box
1738, NL-3000 DR Rotterdam, The
Netherlands.

Tel. (31) (10) 40 82 021

Fax: (31) (10) 45 23 595

E-mail: msalomon@fac.fbk.eur.nl

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 71

European Group Decision and Negotiation Support Working Group

COORDINATOR: Dr. Fran Ackermann,
Department of Management Science,
University of Strathclyde, 40 George
Street, Glasgow G1 1QE, Scotland.
Tel.: (44) (141) 55 24 400 or (44) (141)
55 23 610

Fax: (44) (141) 55 26 686

E-mail: Fran@mansci.strath.ac.uk

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 52

MODEST: Modelling of Economies and Societies in Transition

COORDINATORS: Zbigniew Nahorski
and Jan W. Owsinski, c/o Systems
Research Institute, Polish Academy of
Sciences, Newelska 6, 01447
Warszawa, Poland.

Tel.: (48) (22) 36 41 03

Fax: (48) (22) 37 27 72

E-mails: nahorski@ibspan.waw.pl and
owsinski@ibspan.waw.pl

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 17

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

COORDINATOR : Professor Costas
Pappis (University of Piraeus, Dept. of
Industrial Management, Karaoli &
Dimitriou str 80, 18534, Piraeus,
Greece,

Tel. (+30 1) 4222060,

4120751/ext.220, 9422052,

Fax (+30 1) 4179064,

E-mail: pappis@unipigr.

Eight feature issues of EJOR have been
produced by the working groups :

EIGHT FEATURE ISSUES

EWG : Multicriteria Aid for Decisions (MCDA)
Editor(s) : T. Gal, B. Roy
Feature Issue if EJOR : EJOR 25/2, 1986

EWG : OR Applied to Health Services (ORAHS)
Editor(s) : J. Schreuder
Feature Issue if EJOR : EJOR 29/2, 1987

EWG : EURO Banking Special Interest Group
Editor(s) : J. Telgen, M. Scalzo
Feature Issue if EJOR : EJOR 30/1, 1987

EWG : Project Management and Scheduling
(PMS)
Editor(s) : L.V. Tavares, J. Weglarz
Feature Issue if EJOR : EJOR 49/1, 1990

EWG : European Chapter on Combinatorial
Optimization (ECCO)
Editor(s) : R.D. Galvão, S.K. Jacobsen, N.
Maculan, F. Maffioli
Feature Issue if EJOR : EJOR 58/2, 1992

EWG : Decision Support Systems (DSS)
Editor(s) : J.-P. Brans, T. Jelassi
Feature Issue if EJOR : EJOR 61/1-2, 1992

EWG : Project Management and Scheduling
(PMS)
Editor(s) : J. Carlier, L.V. Tavares
Feature Issue if EJOR : EJOR 64/2, 1993

EWG : Project Management and Scheduling
(PMS)
Editor(s) : L.V. Tavares, C. Vercellis
Feature Issue if EJOR : EJOR 78/2, 1994

EURO Working Groups

Charter of the EWGs

The following charter, adopted by the EURO Council, organizes the functioning of EWGs

Creation of groups

The creation of new EWGs should be left to individual initiative, as has previously been the case. Nonetheless, it might be useful to distinguish between cases :

- (i) creations during a EURO-k Conference
- (ii) creations between EURO-k and EURO-k-1
- (iii) creations arising from a EURO SUMMER INSTITUTE

In case (i), a convener can for instance begin by using the notice board to propose to interested persons to meet at specified time and place in an informal way. If he/she gets enough people together and if they agree upon a tentative schedule of activity, they produce a short report which is forwarded to the EURO Executive Committee; the latter can then either deliver the EURO label at once or await a further meeting of the group.

In case (ii), the convener either applies first to the Executive Committee, who will decide whether and under what conditions they will help, or he/she tries under his/her own initiative to get together enough people interested to work in this area, and then applies to the Executive Committee.

In case (iii) the participants at a ESI present the proposal to the Executive Committee.

In all cases the EURO label means that EURO considers itself well enough informed about the group to include it in its list of official activities. The foundation of the group should be announced in the EURO Bulletin.

Activities

EURO does not try to impose unified regulations for Working Groups. Nonetheless, a few general principles are strongly recommended.

1. The EWGs should as far as possible bring together people with different backgrounds: industry, university, etc.
2. They should be actually international in composition; this requirement is met satisfactorily if at least 4, but possibly 5 or 6 nations are represented at each meeting, and if the meetings do not take place too often in the same country.
3. Groups should be open to individual members of any EURO member society. Persons who are not members of a national OR society are not excluded from the meetings; however, a friendly pressure should be exerted upon them to become members.
4. If one of the EWGs plans a joint meeting with some other (e.g. professional) body, it should provide EURO with general information about the latter. In some cases EWGs can become the European representatives to scientific associations based in other parts of the world. This must be approved by the Executive Committee.

EURO Working Groups

5. As a general rule, EURO-k Conferences will provide time and space for meetings of the EWGs if they so wish and at least for these particular meetings, no entrance fee should be requested from participants.

6. Routine internal information about the groups, such as announcements of future meetings and short reports on previous meetings should be conveyed to the Vice-President 2 and published in the EURO Bulletin. Each chairperson is responsible for sending the information to the Editor of the EURO Bulletin.

7. The Vice-President 2 should automatically become a member of all Working Groups during his/her period of office. This will make it easier for him/her to keep in touch with the Working Groups.

8. The Vice-President 2 will keep an updated list of names and co-ordinators of the Working Groups and will produce a yearly report of their activities.

9. The EWGs will use stationary displaying the EURO symbol and mention their affiliation in all their activities.

10. The EURO Council may accept the existence of Special Interest Groups with closed membership wherever this appears to be justified.

Dissolution of groups

There are two possible cases for the dissolution of a EWG :

1. The chairperson of the group feels that, for some reason, the group cannot go on with its activity and he/she so informs EURO.

2. The Executive Committee ascertains that the group has in fact stopped its activities or has taken a direction that is inconsistent with the goals of EURO.

In both cases, the Executive Committee can either try to restore a better situation or remove the group from the list of EWGs.

Financial arrangements

1. EURO may cover the following expenses related to the activities of the Working Groups :

1.1 Administration

- Printing costs of common stationery;
- Printing of a special issue of the EURO Bulletin containing the yearly reports of the activities of EWGs to be distributed during the EURO-k Conferences and directly to OR Societies;
- Cost of a yearly meeting of EWG co-ordinators during the EURO-k Conferences, travelling expenses excluded;
- Administrative costs related with the establishment of new EWGs (first two years of activity) when alternative financing cannot be found.

EURO Working Groups

EJOR

1.2 Scientific activities

A "reserve budget" that EWGs can call upon to pay the expenses of guest speakers (non-members of the Working Groups), the costs of initiating and/or publishing results of joint research projects and similar activities. The money is paid out by the treasurer after approval by the Vice-President 2.

2. EURO encourages and supports activities that can further the scientific objectives of the EWGs, promote their activities and raise funds. Namely :

2.1 Mini EURO Conferences

The EWGs are encouraged to organize such conferences within the general rules established by EURO.

2.2 Other meetings

Experience shows that some of the groups take advantage of the EURO-k Conferences to organize their own meetings, either as side meetings or within the framework of the conferences itself. This is a good policy, but it should not prelude organising meetings between the conferences. Although EWGs may in some cases request a small financial contribution from the members who participate in their meetings, they are usually not supposed to handle significant amounts of money. In the case of their wishing to organize some specific colloquium, seminar, etc., which involves more finance, they can apply to the treasurer of EURO with a specific budget; in such cases efforts should be made on both sides to reach an agreement regarding possible profits or losses.

2.3 Feature issues of EJOR

The EWGs are encouraged to produce feature issues of EJOR after

consultation with and approval by EJOR editors. Fifty per cent of the royalties accruing from those issues would be made available to support scientific activities of the EWG. The money would be held by EURO and paid out by the treasurer to cover specific expenses after approval by the Vice-President 2.



The European Journal of Operational Research (EJOR)

At the first Council Meeting held on 30 January 1975, a European Journal of Operational Research (EJOR) was proposed. A committee (G. Kreweras, B. Roy, C.B. Tilanus, and H.-J. Zimmermann) was formed to investigate the desirability of such a venture. Following their recommendations, the Council decided on 8 May 1975 that EJOR should be launched. All member societies were requested to nominate candidates for the editorial organization.

The first volume of EJOR appeared in 1977. It consisted of six issues published bimonthly and totalling 420 pages. EJOR has ever since experienced a remarkable growth. Two volumes were published in 1980 in 12 monthly issues; eight volumes totalling over 5300 pages were published in 1995, thus making EJOR the largest OR journal worldwide.

The EURO Bulletin

Most issues since 1981 are led by an Invited Review. Thus by mid-1995, 172 Invited reviews covering a wide range of topics of interest of operational researchers had been published. In addition to the invited reviews and regular papers, EJOR includes book reviews, and sections dealing with OR software.

Over the years, about 90 feature issues of EJOR have appeared. Guest-edited feature issues have been generated by several EURO instruments, notably the EURO-k conferences, the Mini EURO conferences, the EURO Summer Institutes and the EURO Working Groups.

Throughout its lifetime, EJOR has been published by Elsevier Science Publishers (North-Holland), Amsterdam, and edited by:

- **Alan Mercer**,
The Management School, Lancaster University, Lancaster, LA1 4XY, England,
- **C. Bernhard Tilanus**,
Eindhoven University of Technology, P.O. Box 513, NL-5600 MB Eindhoven, The Netherlands and
- **Hans-Jürgen Zimmermann**,
RWTH Aachen, Tempelgraben 64, 52062 Aachen, Germany.

Until 1990, the surplus made at the EURO-k conferences was EURO's sole source of income. Due to an agreement (valid for 10 years) with Elsevier, EURO has since received royalties from Elsevier of a fixed amount per volume published, annually adjusted for inflation.

The EURO Bulletin

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

The first five issues were edited by J.P. Brans as a leaflet sent to more than 10.000 members of the national OR societies in Europe. Throughout the period 1976-1991, the EURO Bulletin appeared as an appendix to EJOR. Former editors of the Bulletin were :

- **1975-1980 : J.P. Brans (B)**
- **1980-1985 : S. Kruse Jacobsen (DK)**
- **1986-1990 : M. Despontin (B)**

A new format was introduced in the second half of 1991, under the editorship Philippe van Asbroeck EURO Office C/O ULB, SMG, CP 210/01, Bld du Triomphe, B-1050 Brussels, Belgium,
Fax: +32 2 650 59 70
E-mail: euro@ulb.ac.be
allowing a quicker circulation of information and a larger diffusion.

The EURO Bulletin is now distributed four times a year through the national OR societies and is available on WWW at the following address:
http://www.ulb.ac.be/euro/euro_welcome.html



EURO Summer and Winter Institutes

The EURO Summer and Winter Institutes

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

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

EURO regularly solicits proposals from the national societies to host an ESWI.

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

Each ESWI is announced in the EURO Bulletin, OR/MS TODAY

and similar newsletters or journals. Applications are channelled to EURO via the national societies and the final selection of participants is made by the Scientific Committee on the basis of submitted papers.

The list of ESWI follows.

Forthcoming events will be :

- the EURO Summer Institute on "Environmental Planning" (Piraeus, Greece, June 1996) organised by C. Pappis.
- the EURO Summer Institute on "Production Scheduling, Deterministic, Stochastic and Fuzzy Approaches" (St Vincent, Aosta Valley, Italy, September 12-26, 1997) organised by R. Tadei.

LIST OF ESWI

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Mini EURO Conferences

Some of the ESWI held to date have led to the publication of a feature issue of EJOR. The list of these feature issues is as follows.

EURO SUMMER INSTITUTES

Date : 1984
Name : ESI I
Feature Issue : EJOR 85/06, 1985
Editor(s) : J.P. Brans

Date : 1985
Name : ESI II
Feature Issue : EJOR 86/07, 1986
Editor(s) : J.P. Brans, M. Despontin, Ph. Vincke

Date : 1986
Name : ESI III
Feature Issue : EJOR 87/14, 1987
Editor(s) : V. Belton

Date : 1987
Name : ESI IV
Feature Issue : EJOR 37/1, 1988
Editor(s) : J. Krarup, P.M. Pruzan

Date : 1988
Name : ESI V
Feature Issue : EJOR 45/1, 1990
Editor(s) : A.G.de Kok, J.K. Lenstra, J. Wijngaard, W.H.M. Zijm

Date : 1989
Name : ESI VI
Feature Issue : EJOR 55/3, 1991
Editor(s) : T. Jelassi, J. Paixão

Date : 1992
Name : ESI VII
Feature Issue : to appear
Editor(s) : L. Bianco, M. Bielli, M.Speranza



The Mini EURO Conferences

In addition to the large EURO-k conferences considering all possible OR-subjects and as a supplement to the established EURO Working Groups, a series of so-called Mini EURO Conferences (MEC) was initiated in 1984. The objective is to assemble a limited number of specialists around a specific theme.

How to organize a Mini EURO Conference ?

Proposals for organizing a Mini EURO conference can be made by any member of any member society of EURO. Guidelines for the organization of a Mini EURO Conference are available upon request from the Secretary of EURO. These proposals are to be approved by the Executive Committee.

It should be stressed that Mini EURO conferences should be open to specialists representing the entire OR community and not only address the organizer's "domestic market". If a proposal is approved by the Executive Committee, EURO will grant a loan to the organizers, sufficient to cover printing and distribution of a Call for Papers to all members of the national societies and of an Invitation Programme to all those interested.

Up to now, five such meetings have been organized; two feature issues of EJOR have resulted. The next Mini EURO Conference on "DSS" will be held in Bruges, Belgium, in March 1997, organised by J.P. Brans and T. Jelassi.

EURO Gold Medal

MINI EURO CONFERENCES

Date : 1984
 Name : MEC I
 Date : June-84
 Location : Bruges
 Country : Belgium
 Organiser(s) : P. Allen (B)
 Theme : Management and Modelling of Dynamic Systems
 Feature Issue : EJOR 25/1, 1986
 Editor(s) : P.M. Allen

Date : 1985
 Name : MEC II
 Date : Nov-85
 Location : Lunteren
 Country : Netherlands
 Organiser(s) : H. Gelder (NL)
 Theme : Experts Systems and Artificial Intelligence in DSS. An OR Interface to Management
 Feature Issue :
 Editor(s) :

Date : 1986
 Name : MEC III
 Date : June-87
 Location : Herceg Novi
 Country : Yugoslavia
 Organiser(s) : S. Guberinic (Yu)
 Theme : Operations Research Methods in Transport Planning and Traffic Control.
 Feature Issue :
 Editor(s) :

Date : 1987
 Name : MEC IV
 Date : Nov-88
 Location : Warwick
 Country : U.K.
 Organiser(s) : V. Belton (UK)
 Theme : Visual Interactive Modelling
 Feature Issue : EJOR 54/3, 1991
 Editor(s) : V. Belton, M. Elder

Date : 1993
 Name : MEC V
 Date : Oct-93
 Location : Thessaloniki
 Country : Greece
 Organiser(s) : V. Papathanassiou (Gr.)
 Theme : Managing Business Opportunities in the Changing Balkan Markets
 Feature Issue :
 Editor(s) :

Date : 1994
 Name : MEC VI
 Date : Jan-94
 Location : Liège
 Country : Belgium
 Organiser(s) : G. Colson (B)
 Theme : Risk Management
 Feature Issue :
 Editor(s) :

The EURO Gold Medal

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

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

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

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



LIST OF EURO GOLD

Date : 1985

Gold Medal Laureate(s) :
H.J. Zimmermann (D)

Date : 1986

Gold Medal Laureate(s) : P. Hansen
(B), A.H.G.Rinnooy Kan (NL)

Date : 1987

Gold Medal Laureate(s) : *IFORS*
Triennial Conference

Date : 1988

Gold Medal Laureate(s) :
E.M.L. Beale (GB) (posthumously)

Date : 1989

Gold Medal Laureate(s) :
C. Berge (F)

Date : 1990

Gold Medal Laureate(s) : *IFORS*
Triennial Conference

Date : 1991

Gold Medal Laureate(s) : J. Blazewicz
(PL), R. Slowinski (PL), J. Weglarz
(PL)

Date : 1992

Gold Medal Laureate(s) :
B. Roy (F)

Date : 1993

Gold Medal Laureate(s) : *IFORS*
Triennial Conference

Date : 1994

Gold Medal Laureate(s) :
J.P. Brans (B), L. Wolsey (B)

Date : 1995

Gold Medal Laureate(s) :
D. de Werra (CH)

Other EURO Instruments

In 1994, four new instruments were introduced by M.F. Shutler. It is too early to report on these instruments. They have the following aims.

EURO Prime (U_p') Conferences

At its meeting in Paris in January 1991 the EURO Executive Committee decided to recommend the establishment of a young persons OR conference, later called EURO Prime (U_p'), open to persons under the age of 35. The aim of the U_p's is to provide a means for young OR workers in Europe to meet together in a less formal and less expensive environment than that of the traditional EURO-k Conferences. It is suggested that the conference should be based at a university and use student accommodation. U_p' Conferences will take place every third year in the same year as the IFORS Conference. No U_p' Conference has been organised yet.

For organizing the U_p' Conference the organizers can apply for an interest free loan from EURO and for subsidies for young persons coming from Eastern, Southeast Europe or Central Europe.

Guidelines for the preparation of a U_p' Conference are available upon request from the Secretary of EURO.



Other EURO Instruments

EURO Fellowships

These may be awarded to students who carry out specific research in support of an officer of EURO. Up to CHF 1000 is payable to each student.

Eastern European Conference Initiative

Up to CHF 5000 may be paid to fund travel by speakers to a conference in Central or Eastern Europe organised jointly by an OR Society in that region and by a Western one. Bids should be sent to:

Jaap Spronk
Erasmus University Rotterdam, P.O.
Box 1738
NL-3000 DR Rotterdam, The
Netherlands
Tel: +31 10 40 81 282
Fax: +31 10 45 26 399
e-mail: spronk@finbel.few.eur.nl

General Support

An annual budget up to CHF 5000 is available in response to bids from organs of EURO or organisers of EURO sponsored events for support for actions in a EURO context not covered by other instruments. Special consideration is given to the need of students. Competitive bids may be made during each 6 month period. A deadline for submission of bids is announced twice a year by the Secretary of EURO.



Other Activities of EURO

Other Activities of EURO***EURO Prize for the Best Applied Paper***

The EURO XIV Conference in Jerusalem (July 3-6) saw the first edition of the EURO Prize for the Best Applied Paper. A jury consisting of J. Pliskin, S. Martello, G. Mitchell, C. van Rijn, M. Salomon and L. Van Wassenhove (chair) had selected 3 finalists out of 15 submissions. The finalists presented their paper in a special session. The jury announced the winner at the closing session of the conference. The winner of this first competition was "AMOS - A probability-driven, customer-oriented decision support system for target marketing of solo mailings" by Nissan Levin, Jacob Zahavi and Morris Olitsky. It is hoped that such a competition will continue during the next EURO-k Conferences.

Handbook of OR/MS Courses in Europe

With the support of the Commission of the European Union within the framework of the ERASMUS Programme, a Handbook of OR/MS courses in Europe has been prepared by Costas Pappis. This handbook offers a clear picture of post-graduate courses in OR/MS in Europe.

The first edition of this handbook appeared in 1995. It will be available on the WWW server of EURO and will be continuously updated.



Cooperation with Other Bodies

Cooperation with Other Bodies

- to help the reader get better acquainted with the activities of the different international systems and cybernetics organizations and journals, and through this,
- to promote the further development of cooperation among the members of these communities.

IFORS

As one of the regional groupings of IFORS, EURO actively participates in the activities of IFORS. Since 1987, EURO appoints a "EURO Vice-President of IFORS" for a three-year period. This position was successively held by Jean-Pierre Brans (1989-1991), Jacob Krarup (1992-1994) and by Rainer Burkard (1995-1996). The EURO Vice-President of IFORS reports each year to the EURO Council.

ALIO

ALIO (Asociacion Latino-Ibero-Americana de Investigacion Operativa) is one of the four regional groupings of IFORS. An ALIO-EURO Workshop on Practical Combinatorial Optimization was organized in Rio de Janeiro in 1989, by R.D. Galvão (Brazil) and S.K. Jacobsen (DK). A feature issue of EJOR has appeared in EJOR, Vol 58, 2 (1992).

Proposals for similar ventures are hereby invited.

WISINET

Worldwide International Systems Institutions Network (WISINET) has recently published a booklet in which EURO and IFORS are among the ten institutions listed. The aims of the booklet are :

Sponsorships

EURO is from time to time invited to sponsor various meetings. Such sponsorships do not include any financial commitments but should be viewed merely as moral support.



FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR PAPERS**ECCO X****THE TENTH MEETING OF THE EUROPEAN
CHAPTER ON COMBINATORIAL OPTIMIZATION****PUERTO DE LA CRUZ, TENERIFE, CANARY
ISLANDS.*****May 14-17, 1997***

The Conference will be hosted by the Department of Statistics, Operational Research and Computing, La Laguna University, Tenerife, Canary Islands, Spain.

Conference Theme :

Combinatorial Optimization: Recent Advances in Theory and Practice

Program Committee :

Jacek Blazewicz, Poznan University of Technology, Poland

Silvano Martello, University of Bologna, Italy

Alain Hertz, Ecole Polytechnic Federal de Lausanne, Switzerland

Paolo Toth, University of Bologna, Italy

Van-Dat Cung, Université de Versailles, France

Organizing Committee :

Joaquin Sicilia, La Laguna University, Spain (Co-chairman)

Maria Teresa Ramos, La Laguna University, Spain (Co-chairman)

Carlos Gonzalez-Martin, La Laguna University

Juan Jose Salazar, La Laguna University

David Alcaide, La Laguna University

Rosa Maria Ramos, Complutense University of Madrid

Carlos Gonzalez-Alcon, La Laguna University

Carmen Elvira Ramos, La Laguna University

Sergio F. Alonso, La Laguna University

Antonio A. Sedeno, La Laguna University

Marcos A. Colebrook, La Laguna University

Jorge Riera, La Laguna University

Jose Miguel Gutierrez, La Laguna University

Jesus A. Gonzalez, La Laguna University

Conference Programme :

Lectures on the current state of the art in combinatorial optimization will be delivered.

ECCO X

Abstracts submission :

We invite papers on all areas of Combinatorial Optimization including (but not limited to) inventory and production, logistics and routing, scheduling, network optimization, financial modelling, polyhedral combinatorics, location analysis, combinatorial games, graph theory.

A one-page abstract, including author(s) names and affiliation, should be submitted before January 1, 1997.

Abstracts should be sent by e-mail, by fax or by normal mail to either of the conference co-organizers at :

Joaquin Sicilia or
Maria Teresa Ramos
Departamento de Estadística,
Investigación Operativa y
Computación
Universidad de La Laguna, 38271 La
Laguna, Tenerife, Islas Canarias.
SPAIN.
Tel : 34-22-603314, 635377
Fax: 34-22-603347
E-mail: eccoten@ull.es

Timetable :

January 1, 1997 :
Deadline for abstract submission

February 1, 1997:
Notification of acceptance

March 1, 1997:
Last date for registration

May 14, 1997:
Conference date

Registration :

Early Registration is free.

Accommodation :

The meeting will take place in Puerto de la Cruz, a tourist village at 20 km. from La Laguna, town where the University is located. The organization office may arrange accommodation at preferential rates in hotels. The second announcement will give information about preferential rates.

WWW and e-mail address :

For further information consult the following e-mail or homepage:
<http://eccoten.deioc.ull.es/eccoten>
(available after September 1, 1996)
e-mail: eccoten@ull.es

European Journal of Operational Research 94 (1996) 212 Call for Papers EURO Best Applied Paper Competition 1997

EURO welcomes the submission of papers for the 1997 Best Applied Paper Competition. Submitted papers should describe a successful application of Operational Research in practice. The applications might be in any area of interest, for example in finance, health care, insurance, logistics, marketing, organisation, etc. The finals of the competition will be held at the 1997 INFORMS/EURO XV Conference in Barcelona (Spain). The prize, consisting of a medal and a certificate, will be awarded at the closing ceremony of INFORMS/EURO XV. Also, full papers that satisfy the editorial requirements will be published in a feature issue of *European Journal of Operational Research*.

History and purpose

The best paper prize competition has been initialised in 1995 by the EURO council as an instrument to recognise outstanding accomplishments in the practise of our profession, and to promote application oriented work in Operational Research.

Format of the submitted papers

Submitted papers should contain a well organised description of a case study and Operational Research methodology (model formulations, algorithms) that has been applied in the context of this study. The costs and (in) tangible benefits related to the application of Operational Research methodology should be indicated as clearly as possible in the paper. Papers concerning methodology that could potentially be applied in practice but has not been applied yet should not be submitted. Furthermore, papers should satisfy the *instructions to authors* which can be found in most issues of *European Journal of Operational Research*.

Rules for submission

Authors that want to enter the competition should submit a complete package containing :

- three copies of a full paper. The paper may neither have been

entered in other competitions, nor may it have been submitted for publication elsewhere;

- a separate sheet containing the title of the paper, and the names, postal addresses, telephone numbers and E-mail addresses of the author(s);
- a separate sheet containing the name(s), postal addresses, telephone numbers and e-mail addresses of contact person(s) at companies and/or institutions where the application took place. The authors agree that during the review process these persons may be contacted by the jury.

The strict deadline for submission is **February 28, 1997**. Packages should be submitted to the chairman of the jury : Professor Marc Salomon, Tilburg University, Faculty of Economics, Department of Econometrics, P.O. Box 90153, 5000 LE Tilburg, The Netherlands. Authors will be informed about the selection of the finalists by the end of April 1997.

At least one of the authors of a submitted paper agrees to present her/his contribution in the finalist session at the INFORMS/EURO XV conference. The conference takes place from July 14-17, 1997 in Barcelona, Spain. Authors are

responsible for payment of all costs related to the conference participation, including registration fees, travelling costs, and lodging.

Further information

Further information regarding the competition can be obtained from Marc Salomon. His E-mail address is m.salomon@fac.fbk.eur.nl