



European Union Contest for Young Scientists

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Structure of presentation

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Background

- **European Commission took over contest in 1989; before this the contest was organised by Philips in the Netherlands from 1966 – 1988**
- **Contest established to promote ideals of cooperation between young scientists**
- **Annual showcase of the best of European student scientific achievement**
- **Gives students opportunity to communicate science to their peers and to work in an international environment**
- **Through the contest, the European Commission seeks to strengthen efforts made in participating countries to attract young people to careers in science and technology**



Contest Organisation

- Based on Contest Rules and Guidelines published by the EC and published on the contest website
- Contest organised by the EC in close co-operation with National Organisers (NOs)
- EC selects Host Country based on expressions of interest from National Organisers
- NOs play a key role; each participating country must have an NO endorsed by their respective government. NO responsible for selecting and submitting projects.
- NO becomes Host Organiser when hosting the contest
- HO receives a grant of €600 000 to organise contest and expected to find this amount again in sponsorships



European event

- The first contest took place in Brussels in 1989.
- Since then, the event has been hosted in Copenhagen, Zurich, Seville, Berlin, Luxembourg, Newcastle upon Tyne, Helsinki, Milan, Porto, Thessalonica, Amsterdam, Bergen, Vienna, Budapest, Dublin, Moscow, Stockholm, Valencia, Copenhagen, Paris, Lisbon and Helsinki.
- The next contest will take place in Bratislava, Slovakia, in September 2011.
- The contest is open to contestants from all EU countries as well as those countries that are associated to the Framework Programme, the research budget. The contest also welcomes contestants from Guest countries, from time to time, but these countries must have a Science and Technology agreement with the EC. Guest countries have included the United States, Australia, New Zealand, Egypt, Mexico, Brazil, Korea and Japan.



Contestants and Projects

- Students must be aged between 14 and 20
- Must have won a 1st prize in their National contest
- Must be school going or in their 1st year at university

- Projects can be the work of an individual or a team of up to 3 students. All team members must attend. Rules concerning age and education applicable to all members of project team

- Each participating country can send a maximum 3 projects and 6 students.

- Projects must consist of technical reports and display materials. Students must set up their projects in situ.



Subjects

- Projects can be submitted to the contest in all disciplines of science and technology including
- Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics
- Engineering
- Computer science
- Environmental science
- Medicine
- Social Science

It should be noted that relatively few social science projects have been submitted over the years and we are actively trying to improve this



Prizes are awarded to Projects

- Main prizes are the EC monetary prizes
 - 3 First prizes of €7000
 - 3 Second prizes of €5000
 - 3 Third prizes of €3500
 - 1 International prize of €5000
- Two Honorary prizes associated with the 1st prizes
 - Visit to London International Science Forum
 - Visit to Stockholm International Youth Science Seminar including tickets to the Nobel Prize ceremony
- Special Prizes from EPO, EIROForum and JRC
 - 5 students visit EPO in Munich for 1 week
 - 8 projects visit CERN, EFDA JET, EMBL, ESRF, ESA, ESO, ILL, XFEL
 - 4 students visit JRC Institutes
 - 3 projects will attend INTEL International Science and Engineering Fair in the US



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Jury

Originality + Creativity

Skill, care, thoroughness

Jury composed of
President plus 17
Jury members of
international
reputation

Good follow through
from conception to
conclusion

Quality of written work

Jury
members
rotate every
5 years

Reasoning and
clarity in
interpretation
and results

Ability to discuss project

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Challenges

EUCYS Goals:

- Contestants from all EU MS – 3 missing CY, NL, RO
- Increase participation of girls towards 50%
- Increase number of Social Science projects

Considering:

- Language issues – EU has 23 official and working languages, and that's before we welcome guest countries!

- Projects can be written in any EU language but Students informed that working language of Jury is English
- Student and judges language issues
- Host Country language issues

- Cultural Differences

- Manage and deal with expectations

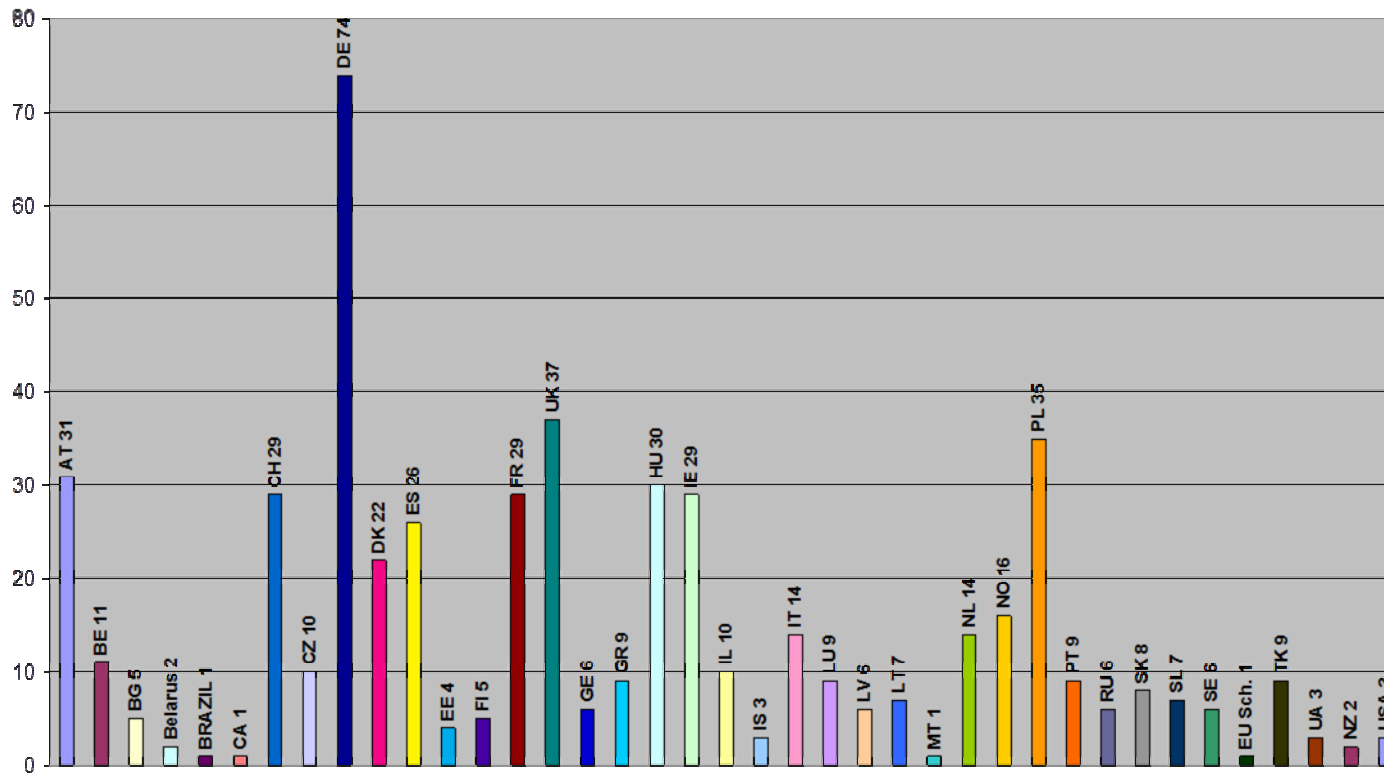


Challenges continued

- Ensure a fair Judging process.
 - Judges should follow their Guidelines
 - Review judges on annual basis
 - Monitor their work
- Give National Organisers their say
- Ensure NO database is up to date (not always informed of change)
- No NO for 3 EU countries despite continuous efforts.....
- Be ready to embrace change!
- Be open to advice!

Statistics

Total prizes per Country
EUCYS 1999 - 2010

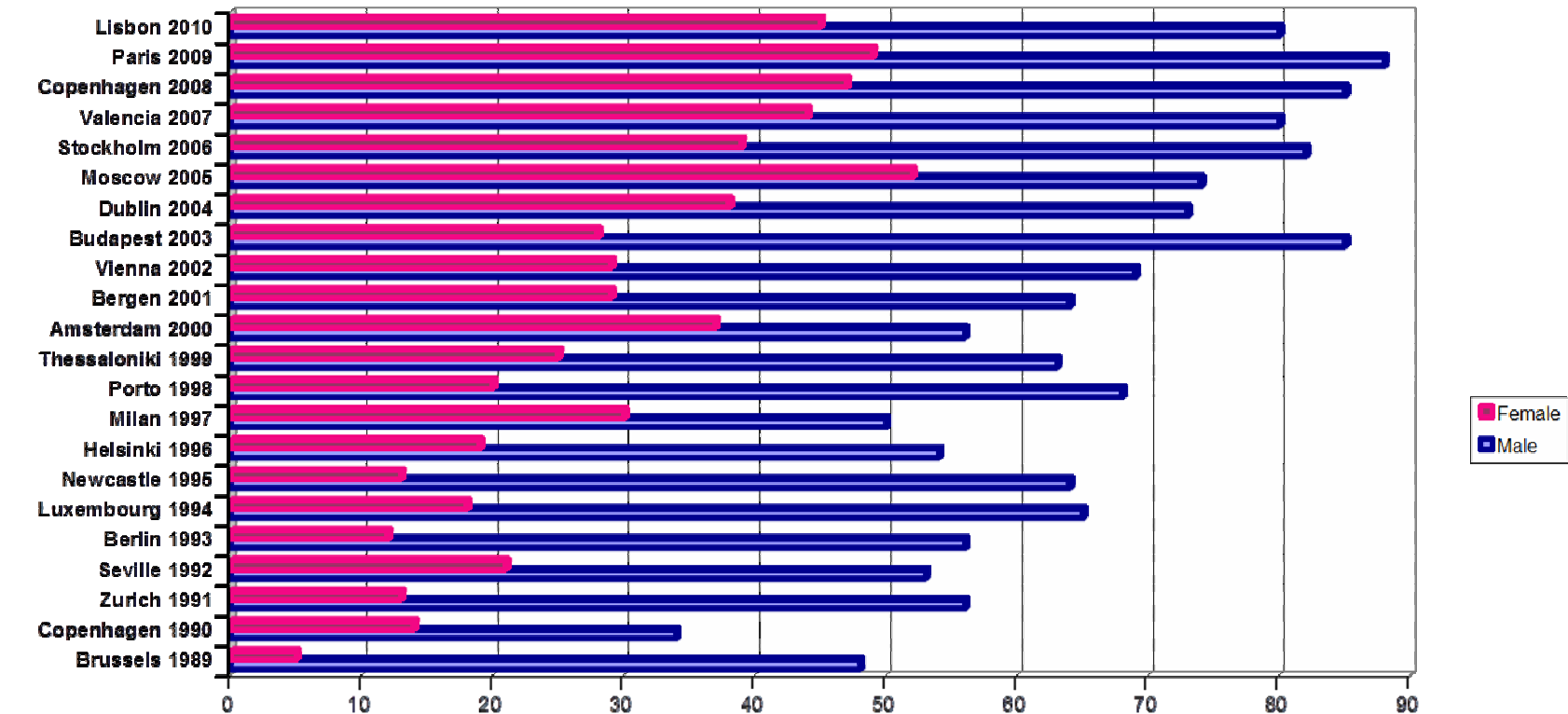




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Statistics

Male and Female participation - EU Contest 1989-2010



	Brussels 1989	Copenhagen 1990	Zurich 1991	Seville 1992	Berlin 1993	Luxembourg 1994	Newcastle 1995	Helsinki 1996	Milan 1997	Porto 1998	Thessaloniki 1999	Amsterdam 2000	Bergen 2001	Vienna 2002	Budapest 2003	Dublin 2004	Moscow 2005	Stockholm 2006	Valencia 2007	Copenhagen 2008	Paris 2009	Lisbon 2010
Female	5	14	13	21	12	18	13	19	30	20	25	37	29	29	28	38	52	39	44	47	49	45
Male	48	34	66	63	68	65	64	64	50	66	63	56	64	69	65	73	74	82	80	85	88	80



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Thank you for your attention! 😊

http://ec.europa.eu/research/youngscientists/index_en.cfm

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