



Cyprus Midterm Conference Report – October 2016

A. Number and Name of the Research Network:

RN21 Quantitative Methods

B. What was the funded event:

The Department of Social and Political Sciences of the University of Cyprus, organized the mid-term conference of the Research Network 21 (“Quantitative Methods”) of the European Sociological Association.

Local Organizer

- Iasonas Lamprianou, University of Cyprus, Cyprus

Coordinators

- Wolfgang Aschauer, University of Salzburg, Austria
- Jolanta Perek-Bialas, Warsaw School of Economics/Jagiellonian University of Cracow, Poland

Scientific Board

- Henning Best, Germany
- Inna Deviatko, Russia
- Anna Domaranska, Ukraine
- Valentina Hlebec, Slovenia
- Tobias Gummer, Germany
- Georg Mueller, Switzerland

C. Final Programme (either insert here or attach separately to this document):

See attachment

D. Financial report (either insert or attach):

See attachment

E. Specific questions:

1. Did your RN organize this conference by itself, or did you cooperate with another institution? If you did cooperate, how big was the share of your RN: were you the major organizer, or the minor organizer or the equal organizer (e.g. 80:20, 30:70, 50:50).

RN21 organized the conference by itself.

2. Was your call for papers widely spread or rather exclusively disseminated to a limited amount of people?

The CfP has been spread widely: Via our RN mailing list, and via two very large international mailing lists on quantitative methodology (ESRA list and RC 33 list). Additionally, the call has been sent via national mailing lists (e.g. the German methodology list).

3. How many people did

a. apply for the conference

80

b. participate in the conference

80

4. How many presentations did you have?

41 presentations, two keynote speeches and one workshop.

5. Did you invite keynote speakers and pay for their expenses (and how much) (if not visible in D.)

We succeeded in inviting Jörg Blasius and Eldad Davidov as prominent keynote speakers for our conference.

We also organized one workshop on Structural Equation Modelling by Jun.-Prof. Dr. Jochen Mayerl.

6. Did you have a registration fee for participants, and if yes, how much discount did you give to ESA-members?

Yes, we had a registration fee of €80 for non-members, €50 for ESA members, and €30 for young researchers and students.

Due to the sponsorships we received, we managed to offer to the delegates a very nice social aspect of the conference. The registration cost included the following: two welcome coffees (one per morning for the first two days), three additional coffee breaks with snacks, two buffet lunches, one guided tour in the city, one dinner and one excursion by bus to another city by the sea. This was an extremely good value for money for the ESA members.

F. Please give a brief overall evaluation:

The topic of the conference was “Data Quality in Quantitative Research”, which is always timely and important. The conference lasted for three days (the third day was for the workshop) and included two keynote speeches, one workshop on Structural Equation Modelling and 41 presentations. Overall, there were 80 participants.

The conference was opened by Savvas Katsikides (Dean of Faculty of Social Sciences and Education - University of Cyprus) and Nektarios Partasides (President of the Cyprus Sociological Association).

The presentations of the keynote speakers were both informative and inspiring and they gave the opportunity to enjoy lively academic debates. We are also very proud for the organization of a workshop on Structural Equation Modelling – indeed, it was so popular that we had to move the event to a larger computer lab! The workshop was attended by 39 participants.

Due to our generous sponsors, we kept the conference fees low (especially for young researchers) in order to bring methodologists from all over Europe together. We are pleased to observe that we have been successful; both the quality and the quantity of submissions has been very rewarding.

We are also grateful to the University of Cyprus for housing this conference and to the Cyprus Tourist Organization for providing a substantive sponsorship.