



CALL TO ORGANISE THE NEXT XXIX ESRS CONGRESS

Due to the COVID pandemic, the XXIX ESRS congress, originally scheduled in Aveiro, in June 2021, has been cancelled. Hence, the next regular congress will be in Summer 2023.

The ESRS congresses are biannual gatherings of scholars and practitioners in the field of rural sociology and related disciplines. They typically attract between 350 and 450 participants, during a 4-day event. More information on earlier conferences can be found [here](#).

The scientific program consists of plenary sessions, a variety of working group sessions and excursions. This scientific program is complemented with a social program. This usually comprises, but is not limited to, a welcome reception on the evening of the conference opening, and a farewell dinner/party on the final evening of the congress.

The organising institute establishes the Local Organising Committee, the LOC. The LOC is responsible for

- The registration of the participants (this will be available prior to conference and at the event for last minute registrations);
- The provision of one congress auditorium with a capacity of 300 to 500 persons and at least 15 additional congress rooms, with different capacities between 15-50 persons. All rooms are to have powerpoint equipment;
- The provision of lunch, coffee/refreshments during the conference session days and the excursion day;
- The organization of at least eight excursions;
- The set up and maintenance of a congress website;
- The provision of an appropriate congress office and information desk, secretarial support and conference personnel during the conference;
- Organising transportation to and from the social events;
- The production of a book of abstracts and congress programme;
- The provision of at least 5 access awards for early career participants;
- The production of archive materials for the reference of future congress organisers, to include congress web-pages, book of abstracts, congress timeline and delegate contact list.
- Providing participants with hotel and university residence information that will be available on the conference website. (Delegates will arrange their own accommodation according to the details provided by the LOC).
- Co-operating with the Scientific Committee - a separate Scientific Committee (SC) will be appointed by the ESRS Executive Committee. The SC is solely in charge of the scientific program. The LOC liaises closely with the SC, especially concerning the time schedule, and the planning of rooms and auditoria.

If you are interested to host the next ESR congress, you should send a letter of intent to Joost Dessein (President of ESRS, Joost.Dessein@ugent.be) by September 30th 2021. This should contain the name of the chair of the LOC and their organisation (this person is responsible for the

organisation of the conference and contact person for ESRS); a description of the venue; a rough description of possible excursions; and a letter of support from an appropriate postholder at the applying institute (such as director, dean, vice-chancellor or rector).

Timeline:

- September 30th 2021: deadline for letter of intent
- October 15th 2021: invitation to make a full proposal, including a preliminary budget. If more than one letters of intent have been received, the ESRS Executive Committee will evaluate applications and invite the first ranked institute to elaborate the full proposal
- December 15th 2021: deadline for full proposal
- January 31st 2022: final approval of proposal

Organising the ESRS congress is a prestigious event that gives an important exposure to your institute and to the LOC. We are looking forward to receiving your letter of intent !

Kind regards,

Joost Dessein, President

On behalf of the ESRS executive committee