



**17.3.2020**

Dear participants of EUROMATH & EUROSCIENCE 2020,

**RE: Registration Fee Refund and completion of FACTOR Competitions**

Firstly we would like to thank you for making this conference in 2020 the largest ever and contributing with best ever quality of abstracts for conference presentations, workshops, and math and science communication activities. This event is the only international event for school students and has doubled in participation in the last two years.

The Organizing Committee regrets that due to Coronavirus situation most of you had to cancel your participation even before the forced cancellation by the Greek Authorities. We as organizers, until the last minute, wanted to respect all participants, those who decided to cancel and those who wanted to attend, regardless of the situation. The good result is that the EUROMATH & EUROSCIENCE 2020 conference did not produce any new coronavirus insistent.

The Organizing Committee, working for almost one year before this event had concluded the programme by mid February 2020 and this was send for printing on Monday 24 February. Many other organizational actions and commitments were under way with all expenses paid. In Academic Conference in which there is a publication of abstracts or papers with ISBN usually the registration fee reflects mainly the publication act. We inform you that this publication is made with ISBN and you can find it on the conference site.

In such situation, one may logically claim that the national authorities cover loses of the people, or everyone shares some loss. Eventhough there are no similar legal cases like what happened with the CoronaVirus, our decision is also discussed with our legal advisors. After a careful consideration and understanding, the organizing committee has decided to vote in favour of maximum benefit for the students and to give two options, with the decision that the next edition of the conference will be during 10-15 March 2021 at the same place, the Grand Hotel Palace in Thessaloniki and lasting one day more. We booked the 2021 event in Thessaloniki to also help the TOP-KINISIS travel agency through which most people made hotel reservations to negotiate the maximum possible refund of hotel bookings.

The Option A will allow the organizers to guarantee the necessary minimum numbers to the Travel Agency and the main hotel where the conference will be hosted next year and the loss of 2020 can be covered through new participants in 2021 and through possible sponsors of the 2021 event. Without a guaranteed event with minimum participants, the organizers cannot take the risk for providing such financial guarantees and as a non-for-profit organization do not have the funds for providing the necessary deposits. Therefore, the Organizers took a decision to use most of their reserved funds to take the maximum lost cost of this conference in relation to organizational matters and in relation to the registration fee.

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## **REGISTRATION FEES REFUND**

**Option A:** For every paid participant of EUROMATH & EUROSCIENCE 2020 there will be a registration coupon issued that can be used in the conference 2021. This coupon can be transferable to other students or teachers and will have the value of the registration paid in 2020. Participants in 2021 who choose option A, WILL NOT have to pay the new registration fee of 2021 or its difference, which will be higher, since the conference in 2021 is one day longer. This increased difference is expected to be up to 30 euro. So accepting the coupon is equivalent to full refund plus additional save of up to 30 euro for next year.

**Option B:** If paid participants prefer to receive a refund of the 2020 registration fee now, the organizers decided to pay the full refund even though they had real expenses and even though the programme and abstracts publication is completed and published with ISBN. A full refund will be given minus an administration fee of 20 euro per participants and a shared bank expense for the bank transfer, if this occurs. Bank expense will be subtracted before refund is made. Note that choosing Option B, those attending the 2021 conference will have to pay again the registration fee, which as explained in Option A will be higher.

**Just for the record the difference in benefit between the Option A and Option B could reach 50 euro per participant in favour of option A.**

We invite the participants via their school or group leader to reply on behalf of their group stating which option they prefer. Attached to this letter there is a form that the representatives of groups or an individual needs to sign. For groups where a number is stated you need to attach the list of names of the group, specifying who is a student and who is a teacher. This form has to be signed and stamped.

Those choosing Option A will receive in the mail the related coupons. Those choosing Option B will receive in the account provided the refund.

Participants have the right not to accept either Option and take other actions.

The refund form should be sent signed to the email [info@euromath.org](mailto:info@euromath.org) and with original signature by surface mail to the address of the Cyprus Mathematical Society shown in the letter footnote. The reply has to be sent by 30 April 2020.

## **COMPLETION OF COMPETITIONS 2020**

Regardless of the choice of option made above, all 2020 finalists of the Competitions

MATHFactor Europe 2020  
SCIENCEFactor Europe 2020  
MATHeatre Europe 2020  
SCIENCETheatre Europe 2020  
European Mathematics Journalistic Article Competition  
European STEAME Communication Competition 2020

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Have the opportunity to participate in the new 2020 online European competition as this is the option decided for giving the chance to students to complete the 2020 competition. Students can submit an improved video for their contest participation by 31 May 2020. Depending on the Coronavirus situation in Europe this deadline may be extended. A jury will assess the videos online and will announce the 2020 winners. Only re-submitted videos with same title themes as accepted in the finalists list of 2020 will be evaluated. The online submission has to include the code given to each participant or theatre group. Only those who completed their registration in EUROMATH & EUROSCIENCE 2020 are eligible to participate in online finals, regardless of choosing the Option A or B above. The link for this submission is ready on the conference website at the following link:

#### EUROMATH & EUROSCIENCE 2020 ONLINE ASSESSMENT

<http://euromath.org/index.php?id=501>

Their participation in the online competition will be FREE.

The European Mathematics Journalistic Article Competition 2020 will be concluded based on scripts sent and will be announced in the following weeks. The awards will be given in the 2021 event. The European STEAME Communication Competition 2020 will be concluded using the submitted or improved videos by the finalists. A message will be sent to finalists with a deadline to submit new videos, if they wish. The winner will be invited to receive the prize during the 2021 event. We hope that we see all the 2020 participants in the 2021 conference and leave this year's bad experience behind us. We also believe that the options provided are very generous and fair, considering the circumstances for the participants and the organizers.

With great respect,

On Behalf of the Organizing Committee



Prof. Gregoris Makrides  
Chair of the Organizing Committee  
President, Cyprus Mathematical Society  
President, THALES Foundation