



Caucasian Mathematics Conference (CMC)-II

Van, Turkey, August 22-24, 2017
Final Report

PREHISTORY: During the meeting of presidents of mathematical societies of Europe in Aarchus on April 6, 2013 the President of Turkish Mathematical Society (TMD) **Betül Tanbay** suggested to launch the Caucasian Mathematical Conference (CMC). Her idea was to bring together mathematicians from Caucasian and neighboring countries, i.e. Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Iran, Russia and Turkey. This suggestion was supported by the President of the European Mathematical Society (EMS) **Marta Sanz-Solé**, the Representative of the Moscow Mathematical Society and EMS Executive Committee member **Armen Sergeev** and the President of the Georgian Mathematical Union (GMU) **Roland Duduchava**. After preliminary discussions it was decided that the best place for the first meeting would be the capital of Georgia, Tbilisi, and the best time, September 2014. All mathematical societies of Caucasian and neighboring countries, namely, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Iran, Russia and Turkey, were invited to take part in the organization of the meeting. The EMS awarded financial support and gave the Conference its logo. In January 2014, TMD invited the representatives of all involved societies to come to Istanbul to discuss the details of CMC I. It turned out that only representatives of Georgia, Russia and Turkey were able to come. At the meeting, which took place on January 11, 2014 the precise dates of CMC and the initial format were fixed. The six participating societies were asked to send their representatives for the first Steering Committee to be approved by EMS. It was suggested to appoint one prominent (on the level of invited speakers at international mathematical congresses) and two young (under 40) mathematicians from each participating country as invited speakers. Later the EMS suggested an additional invited speaker from EMS. At the end of the first CMC, it was decided to have the second CMC in Turkey in two years, and to form the first Scientific Advisory Committee from the main invited speakers who gave a talk in Tbilisi: **Garib N. Murshudov** (MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology, Cambridge), **Dmitri Orlov** (Steklov Mathematical Institute, Moscow), **Samson Shatashvili** (Trinity College, Dublin), **Leon Takhtajan**, University of Stony Brook, **Cem Yalçın Yıldırım** (Boğaziçi University, Istanbul) and the EMS invited speaker **Maria Esteban** (Paris-Dauphine University, Paris). Also it was decided to keep the format of CMC conferences but to add the poster sessions to the format of the conferences if the number of contributed talks will exceed 80 and to raise the conference fee from 20 USD to 30 USD.

TMD soon announced that the location will be Van, Yüzüncü Yıl University. The first time decision of August 2016 had to be postponed for external reasons, and the second CMC was held in 2017. At the end of the conference, it was decided to keep in the Steering Committee the three founding members of CMC, and to have each Scientific Advisory Committee member serve for two conferences. The following members were added to the committee: **Saeid Azam** (Institute for Research in Fundamental Sciences), **Alexander I. Bufetov** (Steklov Mathematical Institute and CNRS), **Tigran Harutyunyan** (Institute of Mathematics of Nat. Ac. of Sc. of Armenia), **Eugene Shargorodsky** (Kings College), **Ali Ülger** (Boğaziçi University, İstanbul).

PREPARATION : After discussions with member societies and EMS the Steering Committee has approved the following list of invited speakers: [TIGRAN HARUTYUNYAN](#) (Institute of Mathematics of National Academy of Science of Armenia), [SAEID AZAM](#) (Institute for Research in Fundamental Sciences), [ALEXANDER IGOREVICH BUFETOV](#) (Steklov Mathematical Institute and CNRS), [YALCHIN EFENDIEV](#) (Texas A&M University), [PAVEL EXNER](#) (Doppler Institute for Mathematical Physics and Applied Mathematics), [EUGENE SHARGORODSKY](#) (Kings College) and [ALİ ÜLGER](#) (Bogaziçi University). The member societies have also proposed the following list of 12 young invited speakers (under 40): [AYNUR BULUT](#) (University of Michigan), [BESIK CHIKVINIDZE](#) (Tbilisi Ivane Javakhishvili State University and Ilia State University) , [GEORGE CHKADUA](#) (King's College London), [ALEXANDER EFIMOV](#) (Steklov Mathematical Institute), [SMBAT GOGYAN](#) (National Academy of Sciences of RA), [HOSSEIN JAFARI](#) (University of Mazandaran), [ÇAĞRI KARAKURT](#) (Bogazici University), [LINDA KHACHATRYAN](#) (Institute of Mathematics of National Academy of Science of Armenia), [BEHNAM KHOSRAVI](#) (Institute for Advanced Studies in Basic Sciences), [ROMAN PALVELEV](#) (Steklov Mathematical Institute and Moscow State University), [SABINA R. SADIGOVA](#) (NAS of Azerbaijan), [AYDIN SHUKUROV](#) (NAS of Azerbaijan).

The Organizing Committee of CMC-II consisted of Peyami Battal (Honorary, Rector), Ayşe Berkman (Vice-chair), Zeynep Kayar (local), Betül Tanbay (Chair), Ali Hakan Tor (local), Cemil Tunç (Dean), Ayberk Zeytin (Scientific Secretary). The First Announcement was sent to all tentative participants and the Conference WEB was launched: www.euro-math-soc.eu/cmc/. Simultaneously, the Local Organizing Committee has started the registration of tentative participants online and by mail. Later the Second and Final Announcements of CMC, containing all necessary information for participants, were disseminated. The conference logo that was designed by the Turkish Mathematical Society continued to be used. Abstracts, program and the Conference poster were compiled by the local organizing committee.

FUNDING: The local organizers of Yüzüncü Yıl University have mostly funded the CMC-II. The EMS was generous enough to cover the initial expenses (ca 3000 Euros) made for the postponed conference of 2016. Most invited speakers were funded by their own societies.

PARTICIPATION: The Organizing Committee of the Conference has registered over 200 applications for the participation in CMC II. 206 of these applicants were able to attend the Conference: 1 from Armenia, 15 from Georgia, 37 from Iran, 4 from Russia, 140 from Turkey and 9 from other countries, Czechia, Indonesia, Irak, Spain, UK, USA. The unevenness was discussed at the Steering Committee meeting: the general conditions of the region between the first and second CMC deteriorated. There are even more reasons to continue such conferences.

CONFERENCE: CMC II was opened on August 22, at 9.30, in the Conference Hall of the Yüzüncü Yıl University by the Chair Betül Tanbay. Welcome addresses were given by Pavel Exner, Peyami Battal, and Attila Aşkar. The Conference was greeted by the mayor of Van. After the Opening Ceremony the scientific program of the Conference started with the first three 45-minute invited lectures and the first three 30-minute lectures given by the young invited speakers. In the afternoon 10 parallel sessions were organized. The next day continued with parallel sessions after a morning trip to Akhtamar island. The third and last day followed the scheme of the first day. All invited speakers were present except M. Efendiev. Only half of the young invited speakers attended the conference.

NEXT CMC: The Steering Committee had a meeting the last afternoon. Participants were: Roland Duduchava, Pavel Exner, Tigran Harutyunyan, Armen Sergeev and Betül Tanbay. Saeid Azam assisted to represent the Iranian Mathematical Society. The Azerbaijan Mathematical Society was not represented.

At the meeting it was decided to:

1. Organize the next CMC in Rostov, Russia in 2019 during the third decade of August.
2. On each meeting of the the Steering Committee elect newly elected Presidents of Mathematical Societies or their chosen representatives to the Committee.
3. Keep the three founding members of CMC, namely Duduchava, Sergeev and Tanbay, as permanent members of the Steering Committee.
4. Have each Scientific Advisory Committee member serve for two conferences.

The **conference website** is reachable at <http://euro-math-soc.eu/cmc/>

Betül Tanbay

Chair of CMC-II

September 2, 2017.

