EURONOISE 2021 – REPORT

Between 25th and 27th October, 2021, took place the congress Euronoise 2021, organized by the Portuguese Acoustical Society (SPA), on behalf of the European Acoustics Association (EAA). Euronoise 2021 also integrated the Iberian Encounter of Acoustics and the 52nd Spanish Congress of Acoustics - Tecnicáustica2021, in cooperation with the Spanish Acoustical Society (SEA). Initially planned as an in-person congress, in the island of Madeira, the international conditions related to the COVID-19 pandemic forced the organization to turn this into an online event.

The Congress was a privileged Forum for the adjournment of many scientists and researchers working in the different areas of acoustics and vibrations, allowing them to have very lively and fruitful discussions. Around 300 participants were involved in the technical part of Euronoise, in which number almost one third can be counted as students.

The opening session of the congress was held on Monday, October 25th, with the participation of representatives from different institutions. Short interventions were made by Jorge Patrício (President of the Portuguese Acoustical Society, and Congress President), Manell Zakharia (President of the European Acoustics Association), Antonio Pedrero (President of the Spanish Acoustical Society), Luís Godinho (Technical Chair of Euronoise 2021), Michael Taroudakis (IYS Coordinating Committee) and Sónia Antunes (Euronoise 2021 General Secretary).

Snapshots from the “Opening Session”
The congress counted with four plenary talks, all of them dealing with advanced and up-to-date research topics on acoustics. The first one was given by Valtteri Hongisto, from the Turku University of Applied Sciences, Finland, entitled “Office Noise - Effects and control”; a second one was given by Kristian Jambrošić, from University of Zagreb, in Croatia, about “Theory vs. Practical Cases in Room Acoustics”; the third was lectured by Xavier Serres-Créixams, from Vall d’Hebron Hospital, in Barcelona Spain, regarding “Diagnostic and therapeutic applications of ultrasound in medicine”; and the fourth was given by Sergio Luzzi, focusing “Acoustics and Environmental Comfort”.

Images from the last plenary lecture, by Prof. Sergio Luzzi.

Besides the plenary lectures, a large number of parallel sessions also took place. In total, 21 general sessions covering the different areas of acoustics, vibrations or noise control were held, hosting a total of 99 papers. 21 structured sessions were organized by different researchers, proposed by members of the EAA Technical Committees, and incorporating a total of 126 papers. Together, all these sessions allowed presentations of around 225 scientific and technical papers, with the contribution of approximately 610 different authors from 31 countries. To help in the concretization of these sessions, collaboration from 46 different session chairs was necessary. It was interesting to
note that the authorship of the presented works included not only researchers from Europe but also from many other countries outside Europe.

Although this congress was an online-only event, the link between practical applications and research in the covered topics was clearly present, and allowed a virtual technical exhibition to take place, also online, with 6 exhibitors.

The conference ended on October 27th, with a closing session. In this session, interventions were made by Jorge Patrício (President of the Portuguese Acoustical Society, and Congress President), Manell Zakharia (President of the European Acoustics Association), Luís Godinho (Technical Chair of Euronoise 2021) and Sónia Antunes (General Secretary of Euronoise 2021). Included in the closing ceremony there was also the presentation of the Best Paper Presentation Awards sponsored by the Head Genuit Foundation, by the president of the EAA Manell Zakharia, and of the “Andres Lara” and “Cátedra Luis de Camoens UC3M” awards, by the president of the SEA, Antonio Pedrero.
After this ceremony, a brief presentation of the next congresses that are going to be organized in the near future was done. These events are “The Acoustics of Ancient Theaters”, to be held in 2022 in Verona, Italy, the “Euroregio 2022”, to occur in Aalborg, Denmark, and the “Tecniacustica 2022”, to take place in Elche, Spain.

The organizers want to thank all those who have contributed for the success of this Congress which has accomplished its mission by gathering scientists and researchers from different countries focused in the different areas of acoustics and vibrations.

On behalf of the Congress Organizing Committee

Jorge Patrício

Luís Godinho