

SIETAR Europa

Suggestions for Gathering in 2018



We would like to present the following options for SIETAR Europa to hold an event in 2018.

Given that SIETAR Germany will be holding a large event in March 2018 and that SIETAR Japan will be hosting a world event in August 2018, we feel it is best for SIETAR Europa to hold a different kind of event, that is innovative, and on a smaller scale.

Here are the options that the team Dr. George Simons, Suzanne van Dijk, and Dimitris Polychronopoulos would like the General Assembly to consider, along with their advantages and disadvantages.

1. *Only Virtual, Only Facebook Live*

ADVANTAGES Anybody, anywhere in the world with a wifi connection, a Facebook account and a hand-held device can present. Videos can be placed on the SIETAR Europa Facebook page and later uploaded to the SIETAR Europa YouTube channel. Can still use ConfTool for the presentations. The theme can be about the virtual world, artificial intelligence, data and technology. Very inexpensive and easiest to organise.

DISADVANTAGES Without face-to-face meetings, there is less of an impact and networking will likely be reduced, although this can be encouraged via the app. Not a replacement for a face-to-face meeting.

2. *Bratislava*

ADVANTAGES Easy to reach. Cheap flights to Bratislava on Ryanair and many flights to nearby Vienna. Could also charter a boat on the Danube. Combine networking and 'speed-dating' activities to meet other professionals for potential collaboration.

DISADVANTAGES Perhaps too low key and better for a regional meeting rather than an international one.

3. *Gdansk*

ADVANTAGES inexpensive flights and accommodations - charming city - there is a boat ride that could be incorporated / chartered to the shipyards — it is more of a short excursion. Only three hours from Kaliningrad. So there is the option for a pre or post event in Kaliningrad and to tie in a theme of Russian relations with the west.

DISADVANTAGES Had a SIETAR Europa congress in Poland, Krakow 2011

4. *Lesvos*

ADVANTAGES opportunity to focus on the migrant crisis since the island is the main arrival point to the EU for those fleeing via Turkey; there is a university on the island; our presence could help the local economy hit hard by a reduction in tourism

DISADVANTAGES may be more expensive than Bratislava or Gdansk to reach unless booked during the peak summer season when there are cheap charter flights to Greece, otherwise flights would generally be via Thessaloniki and Athens.