

# Oral Contributions

[MS42-03] **ECA recent history: From Leuven to Rovinj and before.** Santiago García-Granda<sup>a</sup>  
President of ECA from 2009 to 2012.

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In 2009, at Istanbul, the European Crystallographic association commemorated the 25th ECM. That was 36 years after the ECM1, held in Bordeaux, France, in 1973. We had the opportunity of sharing the commemoration with Professor André Authier the first President of the ECC from 1972 to 1975. Prof Michel Hospital was the chairperson of this inaugural ECM. Professor Authier wrote a key paper on the **'The Birth of the European Crystallographic Committee (ECC) and of the European Crystallographic Meetings (ECM's)'** [1]. ECM25 was singular in many aspects, splendid organization and plenty of new sensations for crystallography in a big city within a huge country. I was elected president of the ECA at ECM25. Three years before at ECM23, in Leuven, I had joined the Executive Committee.

The European Crystallographic Association was born in Lisbon in 1997, twenty-four years after the creation of the ECC. The early history of the ECA is told by C. Lecomte (2002) [2] and H. Fuess (2004) [3]. The ECA of the 21 century is being conducted by a bunch of enthusiastic people trying to consolidate the Association by enlarging the National Membership to 33 National Associations. Consolidating the financial support from the 20 Corporate Associate Members (CAM), around 300 Individual Members (IM), the 12 SIGs (Special Interest Groups) and the two GIGs (General Interest Groups).

Not only the Presidents, Carmelo Giacobozzo, Claude Lecomte, Hartmut Fuess, John Helliwell, myself and the current President Andreas Roodt, but all members of the Exec Committee, all SIGs and GIGs officers and all ECM chairs effectively

contributed to led ECA growth and gain influence. The Max Perutz and Erwin Felix Lewy Bertaut prizes, the educational projects, as the European School of Crystallography or the Erasmus Mundus Applications, the EcaNews or the ECA leaflets are signals of the energy of the association. The activity of the Association, and particularly the reports of the EC winter meetings and ECMs, is often reported to the IUCr Newsletter. [4-6]

I started serving the ECA at ECM23 in Leuven (Belgium), with John Helliwell and hopefully will end my task at the EC in Rovinj (Croatia), at ECM29, with Andreas Roodt. Nine fantastic years including the 2014-International Year of Crystallography and the centennial of the experiments of Max von Laue and the Braggs.

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