

EPSC2020 Evaluation Report



Table of Contents

| | |
|---|-----------|
| 1. Background to EPSC2020 | 2 |
| 2. Headline Statistics for EPSC2020 | 3 |
| 3. Feedback Collection Mechanisms | 4 |
| 3.1. Feedback survey | 4 |
| 3.2. Convener Feedback | 5 |
| 3.3. EPEC@EPSC Feedback | 5 |
| 4. Viewing figures | 6 |
| 5. Overall response to the virtual meeting | 7 |
| 6. Content | 7 |
| 7. Technical issues | 8 |
| 8. Interaction | 8 |
| 9. Public vs Private sessions | 9 |
| 10. Scheduling | 10 |
| 11. International Participation | 12 |
| 12. Early Careers | 12 |
| 13. Accessibility | 13 |
| 14. Incident reporting | 13 |
| 15. Fees | 13 |
| 16. Revised abstract submission system | 13 |
| 17. Video production | 14 |
| 18. Media | 14 |
| 19. Outreach | 14 |
| 20. Key learning points | 15 |
| 21. Recommendations | 15 |
| 21.1. Platform changes | 16 |
| 21.2. Other | 16 |
| 21.3. Zoom changes | 16 |

1. Background to EPSC2020

In March 2020, the decision was taken to hold the Europlanet Science Congress (EPSC) 2020 as a virtual meeting due to the Covid-19 pandemic. A Virtual Organising Committee (VOC) was set up to oversee the meeting format for EPSC2020 and, more widely, to research and collate best practice for virtual meetings that could be drawn on for other meetings held within the framework of Europlanet 2024 RI and the Europlanet Society. Resources from

virtual meeting exemplars (in particular the Nearly Carbon Neutral Conference) and feedback by participants from other comparable meetings held in 2020 (including EGU and EAS 2020) were compiled and studied.

The format chosen for EPSC2020 was a hybrid of live and asynchronous elements, spread over a 3-week timeframe, that included:

- Live-streamed sessions, focused in morning and afternoon time-blocks (maximum 2 hours each) with:
 - Daily morning briefing and guest interviews to promote the live programme, encourage views of asynchronous content and discuss Europlanet 2024 RI services and wider issues in the planetary community.
 - Session showcases (20-minute summaries by conveners of highlights within oral and poster sessions)
 - Keynote talks (20-minute lectures nominated by each programme group)
 - Short courses (1-hour interactive workshops organised by the EPEC Network with a particular emphasis on early career and diversity topics)
 - Community events (including the EPSC2020 Opening Ceremony, prize award ceremonies and lectures, the Europlanet General Assembly, Dialogue with Agencies, Industry & Policy Session, Europlanet Society Hub Showcase).
 - Splinter meetings and workshops, organised and hosted externally by proposers (e.g. via Zoom, GoToMeeting etc.) but approved by the SOC for schedule in the programme.
- Asynchronous content accessible to participants throughout the meeting that fostered participation across multiple time zones, including:
 - 10-minute video recordings of scientific oral presentations
 - Virtual posters uploaded as a set of PDF slides designed to be easily readable on-screen
 - Thread-based comment systems linked to individual oral and poster presentations, as well as overall sessions, to foster discussion and interaction.

'Public' and 'private' setting options enabled authors to choose whether their presentations were fully open access or available only to EPSC2020 registered participants. All presentations will be available through the EPSC2020 website until September 2021. The public video presentations are also publicly accessible through the Europlanet Vimeo Channel and will remain online unless their removal is requested by the authors.

2. [Headline Statistics for EPSC2020](#)

Total number of abstracts: 1034

Total presentations uploaded: 1004 (97% of all submitted abstracts)

Total oral presentations: 738 (73.5% of presentations)

Total poster presentations: 266 (26.5% of presentations)

Total time watched: 95 days, 09 hours, 1 minute, 16 seconds

Average time per view: 7 minutes, 24 seconds

Referrals from EPSC website: 12,145, average 72% watched

Referrals from Vimeo: 5,798, average 46% watched.

Total registered participants: 1168

Unique viewers on Vimeo: 2453

Comments on individual abstract threads: 1053

Comments on session-wide threads: 70

Posts on EPEC@EPSC Slack: 2935

Average views per month since EPSC (November – January): 350

3. Feedback Collection Mechanisms

Feedback on EPSC was gathered from a number of sources:

- Participants were asked to fill in a short questionnaire asking:
 - What did you like about EPSC2020?
 - What didn't you like about EPSC2020?
 - What would you change?
- Conveners were invited to participate in the EPSC2020 Organisers Slack, which included a #lessonslearned channel with 26 members. Conveners were also invited to fill in a 'snagging' spreadsheet of issues to fix, plus a shared document for qualitative feedback.
- EPEC requested early career participants of the meeting to fill in the EPEC@EPSC evaluation form, which asked for feedback and suggestions on the EPEC events (General Assembly, Short Courses, Social Event and ScienceFlash contest) and the EPEC@EPSC Slack.

3.1. Feedback survey

120 (10.3%) of registered participants completed the EPSC2020 feedback survey. The main points raised are listed in the tables below, grouped according to the frequency of the comments and the number of times that they were raised first (an indicator of the strength of feeling about it).

Top 10 responses to 'What did you like about EPSC2020?'

| Rank | Response to "What did you like about EPSC2020?" | # Mentions | # 1 st point raised |
|------|--|------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 | Convenience of asynchronous content (ability to watch content at any time) | 41 | 27 |
| 2 | Science and variety of topics covered | 38 | 21 |
| 3 | Quality of presentations (video and poster scientific presentations) | 31 | 14 |
| 4 | Format of the meeting (virtual, hybrid, live sessions, short time-blocks, schedule) | 24 | 16 |
| 5 | Accessibility of the meeting (lack of need for travel, accessibility across time zones, ability to attend virtual meeting by those not normally participating in EPSC) | 22 | 14 |
| 6 | Morning briefings and interviews | 19 | 9 |
| 7 | Low cost of participation | 18 | 8 |
| 8 | Conference duration | 14 | 3 |
| 9 | Organisation | 13 | 3 |
| 10 | Scientific discussion | 7 | 1 |

Top 10 responses to ‘What didn’t you like about EPSC?’

| Rank | Response to “What didn’t you like about EPSC2020?” | # Mentions | # 1 st point raised |
|------|--|------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 | Lack of discussion (lack of Q&A, live interactions with authors, | 33 | 15 |
| 2 | Nothing (liked everything) | 24 | 24 |
| 3 | Session Showcases* (content and format) | 22 | 10 |
| 4 | Lack of networking/social interaction | 18 | 11 |
| 5 | Extended conference duration | 16 | 9 |
| 6 | Meeting format (hybrid, live session programme, schedule) | 14 | 7 |
| 7 | Platform and technical access (web platform, access to video and poster content) | 12 | 10 |
| 8 | Comments platform (presentation and session discussion forums, comparisons to Slack) | 11 | 5 |
| 9 | Asynchronous content | 7 | 3 |
| 10 | Not a physical meeting | 5 | 4 |

Top 10 responses to ‘What would you change?’

| Rank | Response to “What didn’t you like about EPSC2020?” | # Mentions | # 1 st point raised |
|------|--|------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 | Have live discussions for each session | 26 | 14 |
| 2 | Use discussion platform e.g. Slack | 14 | 9 |
| 3 | Retain virtual/hybrid access for future meetings | 12 | 11 |
| 4 | More general interactivity | 10 | 6 |
| 5 | Changes to live session programme content | 9 | 3 |
| 6 | Follow normal conference format in virtual meeting | 9 | 9 |
| 7 | Technical suggestions | 9 | 5 |
| 8 | More virtual social interaction opportunities | 8 | 6 |
| 9 | Change duration of conference | 6 | 5 |
| 10 | No changes | 5 | 5 |

3.2. Convener Feedback

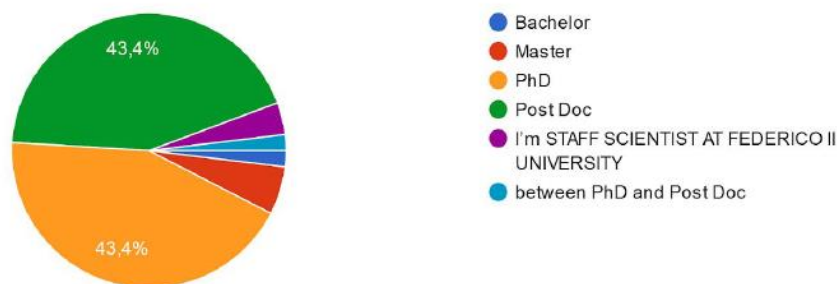
25 suggestions by 8 contributors were included in the ‘snagging list’, mainly focusing on the platform and commenting system. Four convenors contributed to the qualitative feedback document with suggestions for upgrades on the DOI landing page, the timing and content of live sessions, and generating increased interactivity,

3.3. EPEC@EPSC Feedback

The EPEC@EPSC feedback questionnaire received 54 responses from early career participants, mainly at PhD or Post Doc career stage.

At what stage of your career are you?

53 Antworten



4. Viewing figures

An average of 63.8 people watched the streams of EPSC live sessions. Videos uploaded to Vimeo (including oral presentations and recordings of live sessions) have been viewed an average of 21.8 times. The average number of attendees for all sessions at the last stand-alone EPSC (EPSC2018 in Berlin) was 68, so this is roughly in line with the average participation for sessions in a physical meeting.

The average number of views for an oral presentations was 20.2. This may seem low in comparison to the audience of sessions at a physical meeting, but it is worth noting that the average percentage viewed is high (~72%), so those that are watching seem to be strongly engaged.

There has been a steady rate of access since EPSC (~350 per month), which has meant that the average viewing figures for all types of content at EPSC are gradually creeping up.

It is slightly difficult to evaluate the number of 'Unique Viewers' on Vimeo, as the same person may be using different devices (phones, laptops etc) and therefore be counted more than once. However, the fact that viewers from 20 additional countries have accessed content through Vimeo, and nearly a third of views of the video come directly from Vimeo, suggests that non-participants have also accessed the open access video content.

| Video/Live stream content | Average Live views | Vimeo Average Views | | Average % Viewed on (Vimeo) |
|---------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| | | 21 Sep – 2 Oct | 2 Nov | |
| | | | 2 Nov | 8 Feb |
| Oral presentations | N/A | 19.2 | 20.2 | 71.9% |
| Session Showcases | 51.9 | 38.6 | 42.0 | 52.6% |
| Keynotes | 72.7 | 43.2 | 48.8 | 50.1% |
| Community Events | 72.9 | 36.5 | 40.7 | 45.0% |
| Briefings & Interviews | 65.1 | 26.85 | 30.05 | 49.6% |
| Splinter Meetings | N/A | 42.75 | 50.3 | 41.5% |
| All content | 63.8 | 20.9 | 21.8 | |

| Video content | Most Viewed Live | Least Viewed Live | Most Viewed on Vimeo | Least Viewed on Vimeo |
|----------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Oral presentations | N/A | N/A | 194 | 2 |
| Session Showcases | 106 | 10 | 117 | 10 |
| Keynotes | 174 | 33 | 176 | 15 |
| Community Events | 178 | 33 | 82 | 18 |
| Briefings & Interviews | 121 | 33 | 73 | 8 |
| Splinter Meetings | N/A | N/A | 127 | 6 |
| Edited clips (YouTube and Vimeo) | N/A | N/A | 208 | 5 |

5. Overall response to the virtual meeting

Overall, there was a positive response to the virtual meeting, particularly under the circumstances where an in-person meeting was not possible due to the pandemic. While a few respondents to the feedback survey (2) said that they saw no value in virtual meetings and only physical EPSCs should be held in future, others (12) said that virtual/hybrid access should be included in future physical meetings.

6. Content

- **Oral presentations:** These were generally well received, and the quality of the presentations praised in responses via the feedback forms. Participants also said that they liked that they could go back and re-watch something they missed or felt they hadn't quite understood. Some participants complained about the amount of time the oral video presentations took to prepare, and that they had to be submitted well in advance of the start of the conference. Participants would have liked more information on views.
- **Virtual posters:** These were also well received. However, posters were uploaded by Copernicus to the Cloud and there is no information about how many times they have been viewed. This latter point needs to be addressed for EPSC2021. A few respondents complained about the change from normal A0 poster format.
- **Session Showcases:** The showcases were the most controversial elements of the programme, with 22 respondents giving negative feedback (compared to 7 giving positive feedback). Two of the four conveners that provided qualitative feedback also raised issues about the showcases. The negative feedback focused on two themes: 1) questioning the value of the summary compared to participants looking through the abstracts themselves, and 2) drawing attention to the investment of time needed by the conveners to prepare the sessions. However, some of the commenters went on to point to successful examples of showcases that they did find useful, so it may be that with more familiarity and better guidance for conveners, the showcase format would be more popular.
- **Keynotes:** These were among the most viewed live and recorded content on average. Having one keynote per programme group appeared to work well. However, some respondents asked if time for questions could be included.
- **Community events:** These were among the most attended live sessions and received positive general feedback.

- **Briefings and Interviews:** 19 respondents made specific positive comments about the briefings and interviews hosted by Niamh Shaw (compared to 3 respondents that gave negative feedback). Edited clips from the videos have proved a valuable promotional resource for Europlanet (e.g. for the TA facilities).
- **Commenting platforms:** Of the 1123 comments posted, 94% related to individual oral or poster presentations. Just 70 comments were posted on the session-wide threads. The EPEC@EPSC Slack had 221 members and posted 2935 messages over the duration of the conference (1643 in public channels and 1292 as direct messages), indicating that a conference-wide Slack might generate more discussion.

7. Technical issues

The onset of the pandemic meant that decisions about the EPSC2020 virtual meeting had to be made quickly and there was little time for development and sourcing of new platforms and technology.

The EPSC2020 website platform was designed for in-person meetings, with multiple parallel sessions, and had to be adapted to the virtual format with largely plenary sessions. While some piloting was possible, it was not possible to test the actual EPSC2020 platform until the presentations were uploaded on 16 September. This led to some technical issues, particularly in the week preceding EPSC2020.

Several participants highlighted difficulties in finding content on the website. During EPSC, the daily programme on the front page of the website was compiled manually by the Europlanet team as an html table and was replaced each morning by Copernicus.

There were (and still appear to be) ongoing browser/caching issues that mean that the links to presentations from the accordion panels in the programme do not always work. While the links on the main abstract page for each presentation were more reliably active, the inactive links caused confusion.

Within the main EPSC site, video presentations appeared as a small window that could be expanded to full screen. Some participants commented that this display was either too small or too large, and a re-sizable window would have been more useful.

For live sessions, a password had to be manually entered into a pop-up before joining each Zoom session. This was quite clunky to navigate; however, there were no security breaches during the meeting (there was a Zoom-bombing incident during the DPS meeting). Zoom rooms were also only accessible 10 minutes before the session started. The complicated nature of joining live sessions was highlighted by a number of participants

8. Interaction

A clear message from all feedback is that participants missed opportunities for interaction at EPSC2020, both in terms of scientific discussion and also in terms of networking and social contacts.

Some respondents (9) felt strongly that a normal conference format should be followed for the online meeting, with full days of parallel sessions.

The most common request in the participant feedback (26) was for live discussion sessions with authors and/or lightning presentations. Suggestions to support low-key interactions included having a 'clap' or 'like' button to click in lieu of applauding. Other ideas included a speed-dating format, attendance of authors in a zoom room at a pre-announced time, or having a system to directly schedule an appointment with the speaker.

The fact that speakers could not see the faces of the participants in the webinar was also flagged as contributing to the sense of isolation.

Five sessions appeared both on the list of the top ten most viewed video presentations on average and on the most commented presentations on average. This suggests that active conveners play a vital role both in generating discussion and in driving viewers to the asynchronous content.

A number of participants (11) raised the comments platform as something they didn't like and 14 suggested using alternatives (mainly Slack). The comparative high traffic on the EPEC@EPSC Slack compared to the main EPSC platform suggests that Slack could be effective in generating more discussion.

Virtual coffee breaks were not included in the original programme but were introduced towards the end of the first week in response to requests from participants. These were not particularly well attended (4-11 participants) but generated some animated discussions and some regular attendees. The coffee breaks were hosted by the social media team and represented a significant time investment, which would need to be distributed if similar events were to be scheduled in future meetings. Some participants suggested that each session could have an associated coffee break hosted by conveners, to support topical discussion. The attendance at the coffee breaks might have been higher had they followed on directly from the morning sessions.

EPEC organised a social event, which was attended by 32 participants. 12 remained for the 'after event' online game. A plan to automatically distribute participants into breakout rooms did not work in Zoom and the organisers had to manually allocate people to the room.

9. Public vs Private sessions

Participants were offered the opportunity to have their videos posted as public (fully open access and visible on the EPSC website platform and on Vimeo) or private (protected and accessible only to registered participants through the EPSC2020 website platform).

Overall, 61% of presentations were public and 39% private. Slightly more authors of posters (64%) selected the public option compared to orals (60%).

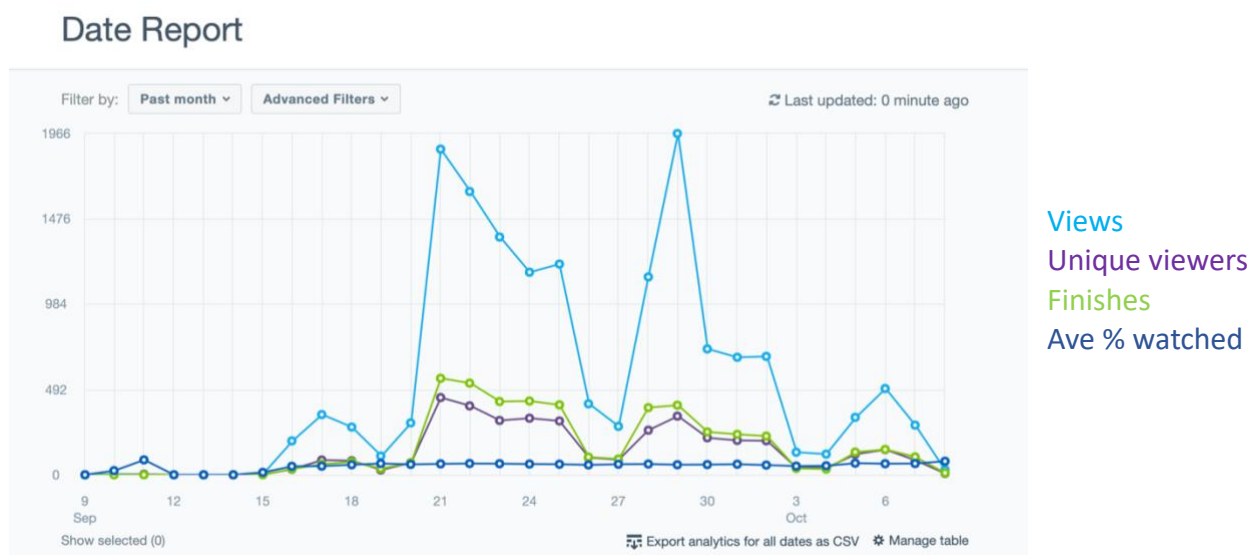
16 videos (2%) have been watched less than 5 times. 92% of the 25 most watched videos were public. 100% of the 25 least watched videos were private. Public videos were watched an average of 24.3 times, with an average of 69% viewed. Private videos were watched an average of 13.8 times, with an average of 77% viewed. Thus, presenters selecting the private option for their videos tended to have lower viewing figures but the viewers were more likely to watch for longer (i.e. the registered conference participants were more engaged with the content than the open access participants, in line with the higher viewing percentage for videos accessed through the Copernicus EPSC2020 platform (72%) than those directly on Vimeo (45%)).

10. Scheduling

Feedback was split regarding conference the extended conference duration, with 14 respondents commenting positively about the three-week timeframe and 16 respondents commenting negatively about it (plus one who said it was too short).

Those who felt it was too long commented a) on the difficulty of allocating time to the meeting over such an extended period, b) that it felt unfocused and was easy to forget about, c) that it was draining or d) that they weren't sure what the point of the third week was.

Those that liked the extended format said that they appreciated the fact that they could follow the conference at their own pace.

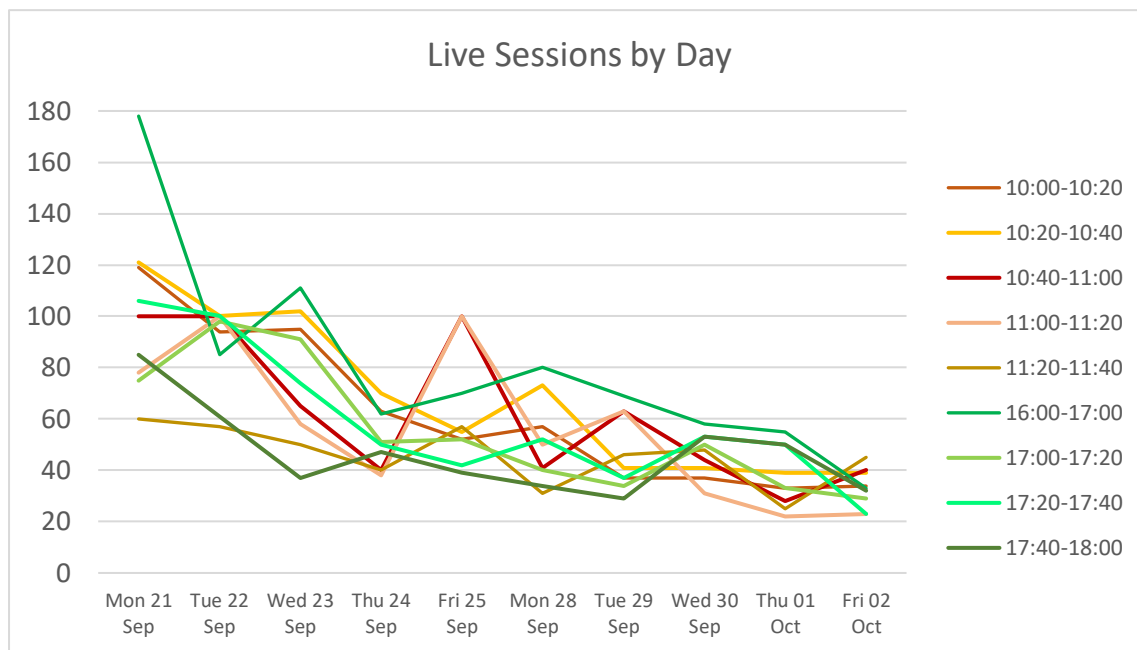


From the video views, it is clear that the live programme had a significant impact on driving viewers to the asynchronous videos. The third week, when the live sessions had finished, showed a significant drop off in views of the video content.

A number of suggestions have been made that could help address these needs e.g.:

- Having the asynchronous content live for a week/ten days before the live programme starts (rather than for a week afterwards).
- Having a less dense live programme but retaining the extended timeframe, e.g. having live events every other day could make it more manageable for participants.
- Running some sessions in parallel would enable a shorter timeframe. However, this would require additional resources in hosting sessions.

There were a number of comments about the timings, particularly with respect to the afternoon time block, which conflicted with the end of school day for some participants with family responsibilities. However, there were also comments from international participants (e.g. in Japan and the US), who noted that the timing of sessions enabled them to join.



Viewing of live sessions decreased over the two weeks of the conference. The viewing of first session of the afternoon tended to be the most watched (when the main community events and plenary lectures were scheduled). The viewing of the other sessions throughout the day varied, primarily depending on the topic.

Feedback from the form and from conveners raised the lack of gap between sessions as an issue, as participants moving from one session missed the beginning of the next session. A time-lag between the start of the live broadcast from the perspective of the host/presenters and when it became visible for those viewing the live-stream exacerbated this problem for the first few sessions. The time-lag was addressed by asking presenters to wait for 30 seconds or so before starting the main content of the session to ensure that viewers did not miss the start.

An 'alarm' mechanism to give speakers a 2-minute audio warning was trialled during the first two days of the meeting but proved ineffectual, as speakers could not hear it. This meant that some of the sessions on the first day were cut off without warning. The issue

was addressed by the Copernicus hosts turning on their cameras two minutes before the scheduled end of the sessions and showing a visual warning, which worked much better.

11. International Participation

The reduced fees, open access on Vimeo and the asynchronous virtual format facilitated participation in EPSC across time-zones and from under-represented countries.

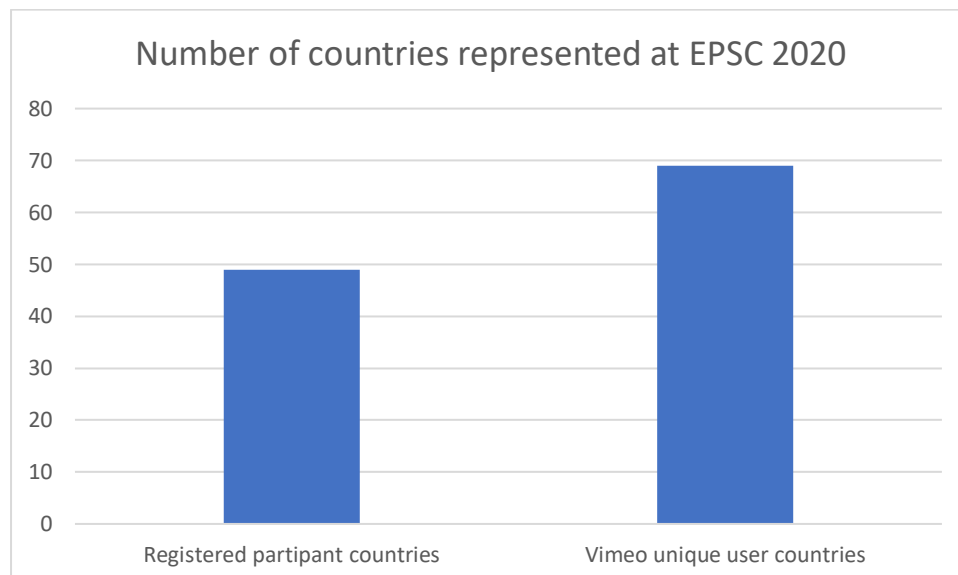
A total of 49 countries were represented in registered participants (compared with 52 at EPSC-DPS 2019 in Geneva and 44 at EPSC 2018 in Berlin). However, Vimeo shows that viewers from 69 countries accessed video content from EPSC2020.

EPSC had participation from countries that had never been represented at previous EPSC meetings, including Thailand, Pakistan, Singapore, New Zealand, Paraguay, Cambodia, San Marino, Philippines, Nigeria and Vietnam.

Other countries had higher participation compared to the average at past EPSCs (e.g. India had 41 unique viewers on Vimeo and 9 registered for EPSC2020, compared to an average of 2 and total of 8 for all previous EPSCs).

The US occupied the top spot for both registered participants and Vimeo viewers, followed by the UK, France, Germany and Italy.

Some participants from China reported difficulty in accessing video content.



12. Early Careers

The Early Careers (EPEC) Network had significant input into the organisation of the meeting and the Short Courses and EPEC events were among those most attended. However, the published programme did not give EPEC proper credit for organising events and this needs to be addressed in future meetings.

All EPEC@EPSC events were rated at 4.0/5 or above by respondents to the survey, except the ScienceFlash contest (3.9/5) where respondents felt that the dynamic was missing in the digital format. The highest-rated EPEC event was the short course on 'Thriving and Surviving' and there was a high request to repeat this course annually.

The EPEC@EPSC Mentoring Programme was joined by 61 mentors and mentees (compared to 66 at EPSC-DPS 2019). A feedback form was sent to mentors and mentees. Out of 26 people responding (43% of participants), 23 were satisfied with their match and all 26 requested that the programme be continued at future EPSCs.

The EPEC@EPSC Slack accumulated 221 members by the end of the meeting, about 39% of the 595 early careers signed up for EPSC.

For a more detailed summary of the EPEC@EPSC evaluation, see the [full report](#).

13. Accessibility

The original intention had been to provide EPSC2020 authors with text files of auto-captions and enable them to edit them for accuracy. However, Vimeo removed its auto-captioning facility shortly before the conference. The team at the ESF provided captions through Otter.ai, but this was extremely time-consuming.

Feedback from participants requested that presenters should be encouraged to speak slower to help non-English speaking listeners.

14. Incident reporting

An incident reporting form was set up to enable participants to report breaches of the Code of Conduct. No reports were submitted.

15. Fees

The relative low cost of the conference was raised positively by a number of participants (8). Some respondents were confused by the introduction of the abstract fee as well as the participation fee, and asked why they couldn't pay both fees at the same time. Some amateur participants (2) complained that they were charged the same abstract processing fee as the professional participants. One participant also asked if wording on payments could clarify that payment by debit card is possible, as well as by credit card.

16. Revised abstract submission system

The introduction of DOIs for the abstracts was received positively but there were some suggestions for making the DOI landing page more useful from a scientific perspective.

There were some issues reported with the new html abstract system, particularly with the very limited size/resolution of images that could be included (500x500 pixels, maximum 1MB), which made annotations and legend very hard to read. Some respondents also said that they found adding special characters and equations difficult.

In addition, some participants (2) felt that the removal of the prescribed format for abstracts meant that the scientific quality of EPSC abstracts as 'mini-papers' risked being diminished.

The media team requested that the short summary box for the abstract be reinstated, as this is vital for carrying out the review of all abstracts for media interest.

17. Video production

All live streamed content was edited and posted on the Europlanet Vimeo channel within 24 hours. It is important to note that this was not included in either the Copernicus or the ESF scope of work, and was done on a voluntary basis by Livia Giacomini. This is not sustainable for future meetings and must be factored into costings.

18. Media

As the media team were heavily involved in the organisation of the EPSC2020, the media engagement programme was scaled back to a minimum compared to normal EPSC meetings. A media invitation was issued and 20 journalists registered. However, only three press releases and two web stories were posted during the meeting and coverage was limited. Prior to the meeting, there was some uncertainty as to whether the usual process of issuing embargoed press releases throughout the meeting would be effective as all content would be visible at the start of the meeting. However, in practice, it appears that the very high volume of material available was off-putting to journalists and that they were not able to identify stories without support from the press office.

At present, authors are not given the option to say if their abstracts are of media interest, but conveners are able to do this. There is a big variation in how conveners approach this task (some flagging almost all presentations in their session, some not engaging at all) which limits the usefulness of the facility for the media team. It might be more helpful either to permit authors to flag their own abstracts (which would help in weeding out presentations that are under embargo or similar restrictions) or give conveners a drop-down list of reasons why they have flagged a presentation (scientifically significant new results, quirky, attractive imagery etc).

19. Outreach

Four outreach programmes were organised for EPSC2020:

- The #InspiredByOtherWorlds arts contest invited members of the public, schools and space enthusiasts of all ages to share artworks and performances inspired by other worlds. The contest received 72 entries from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Czechia, France, Greece, Italy, Lithuania, Spain, Switzerland, UK, Delhi, Brazil, Uruguay, USA. The contest gallery has been viewed 1202 times.
- EPSC Goes Live for Schools, organised in collaboration with Lecturers Without Borders, EPEC, the Europlanet Society Diversity Committee, Scientix, EUN, SpaceEU and Frontiers in Science, offered webinars on planetary-related topics for educators and students and compiled a playlist of selected EPSC2020 presentations with plain-language descriptions. There were 114 registrations for events, with 42 schools participating.
- The EPEC-EPSC #PlanetaryScience4All Video Contest invited early career researchers to submit a four-minute video about their research. Four high-quality videos were submitted. The videos have been viewed 620 times in total. Two of the participants have gone on to join the EPEC Communications Working Group.
- The EPSC2020 Planetary Science Wiki Edit-a-thon, organised by the Diversity Committee of the Europlanet Society in collaboration with Women in Red and WikiDonne, aims to highlight diversity within the planetary science community. The Edit-a-thon has continued since EPSC2020, with new and translated Wikipedia profiles of planetary scientists continuing to be added. To date, one new profile and 16 translations have been contributed to Wikipedia.

20. Key learning points

- Creating opportunities for interaction is the major challenge for virtual meetings. There are many tools (Gather, Discord etc) that are trying to address this. However, (as of February 2021) there don't yet appear to be clear, affordable solutions.
- The impact of a virtual meeting extends well beyond the timeframe of the official dates. People will continue to interact with the content for several months afterwards.
- The live programme of a hybrid meeting plays a very important role in driving people to the asynchronous content.
- Slack is a more familiar and user-friendly platform for generating discussion than the Copernicus comments platform.
- Virtual meetings take a significant effort to organise. While there may be savings on venues and catering, the personnel costs can be higher.
- Active conveners are vital in generating comments and encouraging people to engage with the asynchronous content.

21. Recommendations

- Use Slack, rather than the Copernicus comments platform.
- Pre-record shorter session showcases
- Provide opportunities for live discussion
- Plan social events
- Make sure conveners are briefed and understand that they need to be active in promoting the session and starting discussions.

- Include a short break between sessions or keep Zoom rooms open for consecutive sessions.

21.1. Platform changes

- Change the 'private' icon for posters to something more easily identifiable
- Provide a link to the final presentation material (either poster or video) in the abstract DOI landing page. Another option would be to suggest to the authors (but that includes an extra step) to submit their presentation material to open archives like ESSOAr (<https://www.essoar.org>) and then add a "relatedIdentifier" metadata point to that resource within the EPSC abstract DOI metadata.
- Increase visibility of posters in the programme, in line with the oral presentations (could be just a pdf sign to click on) instead of having to scroll down to the bottom of the abstract to find the link.
- Find a mechanism for tracking views of posters
- have a .ics calendar embedded in the email of notification of the session zoom meeting
- Include a box for a short (or plain language) summary of the abstract (for media and outreach reviews). This might also help conveners in preparing session showcases/summaries.

21.2. Other

- Have an EPSC app regardless of whether the meeting is virtual or physical as it also has some value also for online only meeting for orientation to and give notification of live events.
- The organisers of the Outstanding Student Poster Award (OPSA) have suggested that in future virtual editions, the OSPA label should be dropped and OSPA posters should be highlighted in programme instead.

21.3. Zoom changes

- Provide a download of the Q&A from live Zoom sessions as a text file after the session to conveners, or hold all discussions via Slack, so as to avoid potentially losing some of the information.