

**SECOND EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERING
AND SEISMOLOGY, ISTANBUL AUG. 25-29, 2014**



HISTORY OF ESC

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The history and development of the European Seismological Commission (ESC) is being compiled by the authors with the help of many other ESC member representatives, past and present.

Since early discussions in 1947 and ESC's "pre-founding" in 1949 led by I. Lehmann, Denmark; C. Charlier, Belgium; J.P.Rothe, France, and W. Vissier, Holland, and its formal inauguration in 1952 under IASPEI, the ESC has had a consistent focus on improving and communicating theoretical and practical seismology in Europe regardless of national and political boundaries, neither of which are respected by earthquakes, their damaging effects, nor by the geological and tectonic structures that cause them.

Including the first General Assembly organised in 1952 by W Hiller in Stuttgart under the title "Seismic Structure of the European Continent", there have been 33 meetings before Istanbul 2014, giving the opportunity for most of the 40-plus countries, which are members today, to host an Assembly.

Our present state of knowledge of ESC's history is presented together with a plea for further practical help in identifying scientists from the past, for whom we have records in ESC Assembly photographs, and to fill gaps in series of key ESC proceedings, reports and documents.

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