ESCAIDE

European Scientific Conference on Applied Infectious Disease Epidemiology

19-21 November 2025

HYBRID Warsaw and online

ESCAIDE

ecdc EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR DISEASE PREVENTION AND CONTROL

Evaluation report: January 2026

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ESCAIDE 2025 in numbers

4 171 **Registered participants**

2 908 **Active participants** in person and online, representing **126** countries

2 217 **Online only active attendees**

691 **In-person attendees**

126 **Total countries represented** in total, with 61 countries represented in-person, and 118 online.

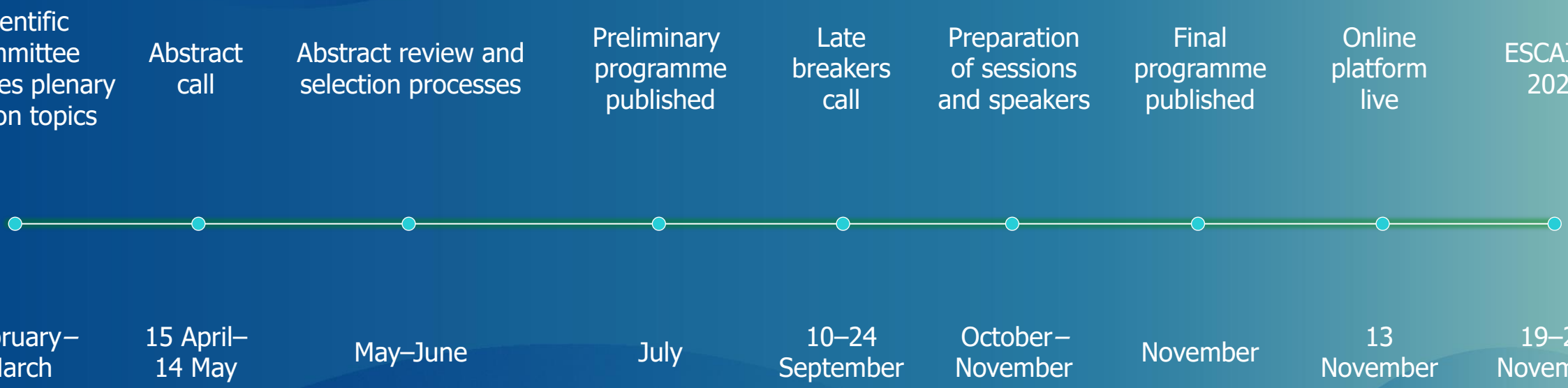
95.7% **Feedback survey** respondents who reported being either ‘extremely’ or ‘very much’ satisfied with the conference.

+300 **Speakers and moderators** involved in plenary sessions, fireside sessions, poster tours and side events.

3 246 **Comments, questions, polls and messages** exchanged during the conference.

#ESCAIDE2025

ESCAIDE 2025 timeline overview



Programme

Overview of the programme and main features of the conference

Programme

The ESCAIDE 2025 programme offered a rich mix of sessions, including **plenaries, fireside sessions, and poster tours,** along with thematic sessions and other side events that helped participants connect and network. With more than 300 expert-led discussions spread across 64 sessions, ESCAIDE 2025 offered a valuable opportunity for sharing knowledge and ideas.

<table>
<tr><th>Plenary sessions</th><th colspan="2">Abstract-led sessions</th><th>Side sessions</th><th>Other sessions</th></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="2">6 plenary sessions</td><td>14 fireside sessions</td><td>23 poster tours</td><td>9 side sessions</td><td>14 events</td></tr>
<tr><td>82 oral abstract presentations</td><td>133 poster presentations</td><td>5 thematic sessions
Eurosurveillance seminar
Career Compass
2 pre-conference workshops</td><td rowspan="2">Science communication through conversation
Networking event
BarCamp
EU Health Task Force meeting
Meet the expert
EAN Photo competition
…</td></tr>
<tr><td>18 speakers
11 moderators</td><td colspan="2">215 presenters
37 moderators</td><td>26 speakers
10 moderators</td></tr>
</table>

ESCAIDE 2025 Programme

Programme: Plenary sessions

Plenary sessions at ESCAIDE provide an opportunity to discuss public health challenges and scientific advances. They bring together experts from different fields, aiming to translate evidence from infectious disease research and epidemiology into improvements in public health. The content for these sessions is proposed by the ESCAIDE Scientific Committee, composed of 11 multidisciplinary members, who invite high-level speakers to deliver engaging presentations and answer audience questions. At ESCAIDE 2025, there were six plenary sessions, all developed and chaired by the Scientific Committee.

Plenaries					
Plenary A: High stakes, low certainty: Post-Normal Science in public health governance	**Plenary B:** Science-based leadership in public health: decisions under pressure	**Plenary C:** The third pillar of One Health: why environment can't be an afterthought	**Plenary D:** One bird, two stones: veterinary and human health collaboration in action	**Plenary E:** Health for all: equity challenges in accessing essential health services	**Plenary F:** Beyond numbers: humanising public health to address health inequities

Plenary sessions at ESCAIDE 2025

Day 1 – Wednesday 19 November, 09:25-10:25

Plenary A

High stakes, low certainty:

Post-Normal Science in public health governance

SPEAKER

Silvio Funtowicz

University of Bergen, Norway

Chairs: Agnes Hajdu (National Center for Public Health and Pharmacy, Hungary), Henriette de Valk (Santé Publique, France)

Day 1 – Wednesday 19 November, 17:00-18:30

Plenary B

Science-based leadership in public health: decisions under pressure

SPEAKERS

Alemka Markotić
University Hospital for Infectious Diseases, Croatia

Eirini Agapidaki
Ministry of Health, Greece

Karin Maria Nygård
Norwegian Institute of Public Health, Norway

Tanja Kuchenmüller
Head of Unit for Policy, Evidence to Policy and Impact, World Health Organization

Chairs: Bruno Ciancio (ECDC, Sweden), Jacobo Mendioroz Peña (Public Health Agency of Catalonia, Spain)

Day 2 – Thursday 20 November, 9:00-10:30

Plenary C

The third pillar of One Health: why environment can't be an afterthought

SPEAKERS

Jan Semenza
Umeå University, Sweden

Boudewijn Catry
Sciensano, Belgium

Gerardo Sanchez Martinez
European Environment Agency, Denmark

Frank Møller Aarestrup
Danish Technical University, Denmark

Chairs: Carlos das Neves (EFSA, Italy), Tyra Grove Krause (Statens Serum Institut, Denmark)

Day 2 – Thursday 20 November, 17:00-18:30

Plenary D

One bird, two stones:

veterinary and human health collaboration in action

SPEAKERS

Richard Webby

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

Ramona Trebbien

SSI, Denmark

Alice Fusaro

IZSVe, Italy

Andrea Gervelmeyer

EFSA, Italy

Chairs: Angeliki Melidou (ECDC, Sweden), Carlos das Neves (EFSA, Italy)

Day 3 – Friday 21 November, 9:20-10:45

Plenary E

Health for all: equity challenges in accessing essential health services

SPEAKERS

Viviane Bremer

Robert Koch Institute, Germany

Susan Hahné

RIVM, Netherlands

Adrian Stoica

Arges County Directorate of Public Health, Romania

Chairs: Miłosz Parczewski (Pomeranian Medical University, Poland), Nadine Zeitlmann (RKI, Germany)

Day 3 – Friday 21 November, 15:45-16:30

Plenary F

Beyond numbers: humanising public health to address health inequities

SPEAKERS

Grazia Caleo

Independent public health consultant, United Kingdom

Elburg van Boetzelaer

Médecins Sans Frontières, Netherlands

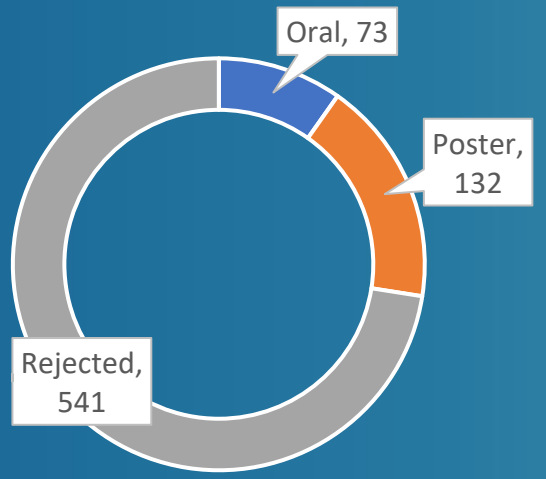
Chairs: Alicia Barrasa (EAN and UKHSA, United Kingdom), Piotr Kramarz (ECDC, Sweden)

Programme: Abstract presentations

ESCAIDE 2025 received 853 abstract submissions, of which 83 were selected for oral presentations and 145 for poster tours. The acceptance rate was 26.7%. For comparison, the acceptance rates were 34.3% in 2024, 26.2% in 2023 and 36% in 2022, with the lower acceptance rates in 2025 reflecting a surge in abstract submissions. This year the format of only in-person posters was maintained.

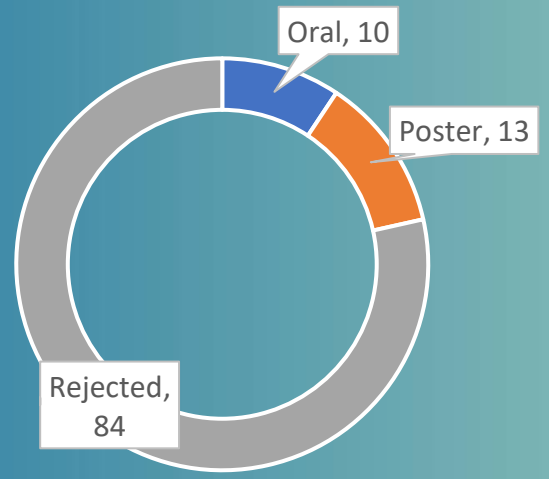
Abstract book ESCAIDE 2025

Standard call



Total submitted: 746
Total accepted: 205

Late breakers



Total submitted: 107
Total accepted: 23

Programme: Abstract presentations

Abstracts submitted to ESCAIDE 2025 were reviewed by 256 reviewers and the Scientific Committee. The selected abstracts highlight the latest research across a broad range of fields, including infectious disease epidemiology, microbiology, surveillance, implementation science, mathematical modelling, and preparedness. These abstracts were presented in two key formats: interactive oral presentations during Fireside sessions or visual displays in Poster tours, each followed by Q&A sessions with the moderators and audience. While 145 abstracts were accepted as poster presentations and 83 as oral presentations, only 133 and 82 were presented, respectively, due to last-minute retractions and cancellations.

Abstract presentations

14 Fireside sessions (82 oral presentations)	23 Poster tours (133 poster presentations)

Abstract book ESCAIDE 2025

Abstract reviewers

Albania
Silvia Bino
Kujtim Mersini
Armenia
Lusine Paronyan
Australia
Alastair Donachie
Austria
Ziad El-Khatib
Dirk Werber
Adriana Cabal Rosel
Belgium
Tarik Derrough
Javiera Rebolledo
Amber Litzroth
Amrish Baidjoe
Bulgaria
Vanya Rangelova
Canada
Robert Stirling
Lisa Hansen
Jane Buxton
Croatia
Mirjana Lana Kosanovic
Licina
Czechia
Anna Kubatova
Vladimír Príkazský
Hana Orlíková
Denmark
Pikka Jokelainen
Stine Nielsen
Tyra Grove Krause
Lasse dam Rasmussen
Sophie Gubbels
Andreas Petersen
Christian Hansen
Ana Paula Coutinho Rehse

ECDC
Xanthi Andrianou
Otilia Mardh
Pawel Stefanoff
Peter Kinross
Phillip Zucs
Piotr Kramarz
Sarah Earnshaw Blomquist
Silvia Funke
Stefania De Angelis
Susana Barragan
Theresa Enkirch
Tommi Kärki
Vivian Leung
John Kinsman
Jordi Borrell Pique
Jose Canevari
Julien Beaute
Kate Olsson
Katie Palmer
Katja Siling
Leah Martin
Luis Alves de Sousa
Luisa Hallmaier Wacker
Maike Winters
Maria Keramarou
Marieke Van der Werf
Maximilian Riess
Nathalie Nicolay
Eeva Broberg
Emmanuel Robesyn
Esther Kukielka
Ettore Severi
Eva Bons
Francois-Xavier Lamy
Gaetano Marrone
Gerjon Ikink
Gianfranco Spiteri

Helena De Carvalho Gomes
Howard Needham
Ines Steffens
Irina Ljungqvist
Joana Gomes Dias
Adam Roth
Agoritsa Baka
Angeliki Melidou
Angelo D'Ambrosio
Anke Kohlenberg
Barbora Kinross
Carl Suetens
Carmen Varela Santos
Diamantis Plachouras
Bastian Prasse
Tanja Charles
Bruno Christian Ciancio
Egypt
Hala Abou el Naja
Finland
Lotta Siira
Erika Lindh
Hanna Nohynek
Cristina Gonzalez-Perez
France
Simon Cauchemez
Alexandra Moura
Ndeindo Ndeikoundam Ngangro
Lauriane Ramalli
Nathalie Jourdan
Henriette De Valk
Angie Rose
Anna Maisa
Camelia Savulescu
Paireau Juliette
Georgia

Ekaterine Ruadze
Germany
Nadine Zeitlmann
Jan Walter
Arina Zanuzdana
Philipp Zanger
Sofie Gillesberg raiser
Bettina Rosner
Soeren Becker
Sophie Rettenbacher-Riefler
Sybille Rehmet
Uwe Schlotthauer
Johannes Dreesman
Katja Kajikhina
Katrin Kremer-Flach
Raskit Lachmann
Meincke Maylin
Miriam Wiese-Posselt
Gerhard Falkenhorst
Julia Fitzner
Thomas Harder
Hofmann Alexandra
Ivo Foppa
Johann Fontaine
Gamze Aktuna
Maria An der Heiden
Andreas Sing
Jurke Annette
Michael Brandl
Viviane Bremer
Christiane Wagner-Wiening
Dagmar Rimek
Michaela Diercke
Sandra Dudareva
Florian Burckhardt
Greece
Vana Sypsa

Rengina Vorou
Theologia Sideroglou
Sotirios Tsiodras
Kassiani Mellou
Loukia Zerva
Dimitrios Paraskevis
Anastasia (Nancy) Flountzi
Georgina Tzanakaki
Andreas Mentis
Hungary
Agnes Galgoczi
Agnes Hajdu
Ida Prantner
Ireland
Patricia Garvey
Lisa Domegan
Lois O'Connor
Eve Robinson
Anne Carroll
Italy
Patrizio Pezzotti
Biagio Pedalino
Pier Luigi Lopalco
Saverio Caini
Lara Ricotta
Loredana Ingrosso
Domenico Martinelli
Enrico Girardi
Francesca Latronico
Claudia Lucarelli
Stef Bronzwaer
Carlos Das Neves
Latvia
Dzintars Mozgis
Lebanon
Zeina Farah
Luxembourg
Joël Mossong

Cinthia Menel Lemos
Malta
Tanya Melillo
Moldova
Alina Druc
Namibia
Hannah Lewis
Christian Winter
Netherlands
Alma Tostmann
Zsofia Igloi
Sonia Boender
Susan Hahné
Tom Woudenberg
Jorrit Hofstra
Kim Benschop
Margreet Te Wierik
Mirjam Knol
Ingrid Friesema
John Rossen
Norway
Preben Aavitsland
Lamprini Veneti
Umaer Naseer
Pakistan
Imran Nisar
Palestine
Diaa Hjaija
Poland
Karolina Zakrzewska
Magdalena AnkiersztejnBartczak
Marta Niedźwiedzka-Stadnik
Magdalena Rosinska
Malgorzata Sadkowska-Todys
Maria Ganczak

Justyna Kowalska
Milosz Parczewski
Portugal
Claudia Palladino
Pedro Pinto-Leite
Ricardo Mexia
Raquel Sá-Leão
Vasco Ricoca Peixoto
Vítor Borges
Luisa Peixe
Sandra Guedes
João Paulo Gomes
Ana Miguel Matos
Carlos Matias Dias
Romania
Loredana Sabina Cornelia Manolescu
Madalina Solomon
Mircea Ioan Popa
Andrei-Alexandru Muntean
Gabriela Loredana Popa
Irina Brumboiu
Alina Daniela Zaharia
Daniela Pitigoi
Delia Herghea
Saudi Arabia
Bassel Molaeb
Slovenia
Veronika Ucakar
Maja Subelj
Martyna Gassowski
Bojana Beovic
Spain
Noemí López-Perea
Silvia Jiménez Jorge
Margarita Riera
Macarena Garrido-Estepa
Elsa Negro calduch

Javier Del Aguila Mejia
Jacobo Mendioroz Peña
Carmen Montaño
Sweden
Kim Blom
Klara Sondén
Moa Rehn
Emmi Andersson
Erik Sturegård
Hong Fang
Nils Anders Tegnell
Claes Schalén
Cyril Barbezange
Turkey
Levent Akin
Fehminaz Temel
Ukraine
Olena Nesterova
United Kingdom
Giuseppina Ortu
Petra Manley
Ranya Mulchandani
Sooria Balasegaram
Christopher Williams
Louise Coole
Malorie Perry
Mari Morgan
Gavin Dabrera
Giri Shankar
Alicia Barrasa
Androulla Efstratiou
Aoife Doyle
Aura Aguirre-Beltran
Caoimhe Mckerr
Daniel Thomas
Hikaru Bolt
United States
Peter Gerner-Smidt
Richard Goering

Programme: Side events

ESCAIDE side sessions are designed to spark discussions on key topics from the year or to highlight significant work in specific fields. These events take various formats, including presentations, training sessions, workshops, symposia, and debates. Organised by third parties, they allow flexibility to explore different approaches to format and content.

Pre-conference	Side-sessions		
Pre-conference (18 Nov)	**Day 1 (19 Nov)**	**Day 2 (20 Nov)**	**Day 3 (21 Nov)**
ECDC Workshop: Introduction to evidence-based public health and evidence-informed decision-making	**Thematic session 1:** Artificial intelligence in public health: hype or help?	**Thematic session 3:** Impact of the use of conjugate pneumococcal vaccines on invasive pneumococcal disease: current status of evidence	**Thematic session 5:** Diagnosing barriers to vaccination
***Eurosurveillance* workshop:** Improving your chances to get published in scholarly journals	**Career compass**	***Eurosurveillance* seminar:** Vaccines and tomorrow's opportunities for public health	
	Thematic session 2: Global Epidemic Intelligence: strengthening early detection and assessment of public health events	**Thematic session 4:** Meet Europe's Cross-agency One Health Task Force	

Side events at ESCAIDE 2025

Pre-conference workshops

Programme: Other events

ESCAIDE 2025 featured a variety of activities to complement the scientific programme, offering participants opportunities to connect, unwind and recharge. The first day included a networking event, where participants could meet and socialise, as well as listen to a performance by a local choir. The second day hosted the BarCamp, where participants discussed the most voted topic. During the three days of the conference there were also sessions such as 'Meet the expert' which aimed to bring senior public health professionals closer to early career researchers.

Other events
Networking event
BarCamp
Science communication through conversation
EU Health Task Force meeting
Meet the expert
EAN Photo competition
Networks closed meetings (EAN, MediPIET, EUHTF)

View ESCAIDE 2025 photos

Registrations and attendance

Overview of online and in-person registrations and attendance

Registrations

4 171
Registrations in total

3 405
(1188 no-shows, 34,9%)
Online-only registrations

2 217
Unique online attendees

766
(75 no-shows, 9,8%)
In-person registrations

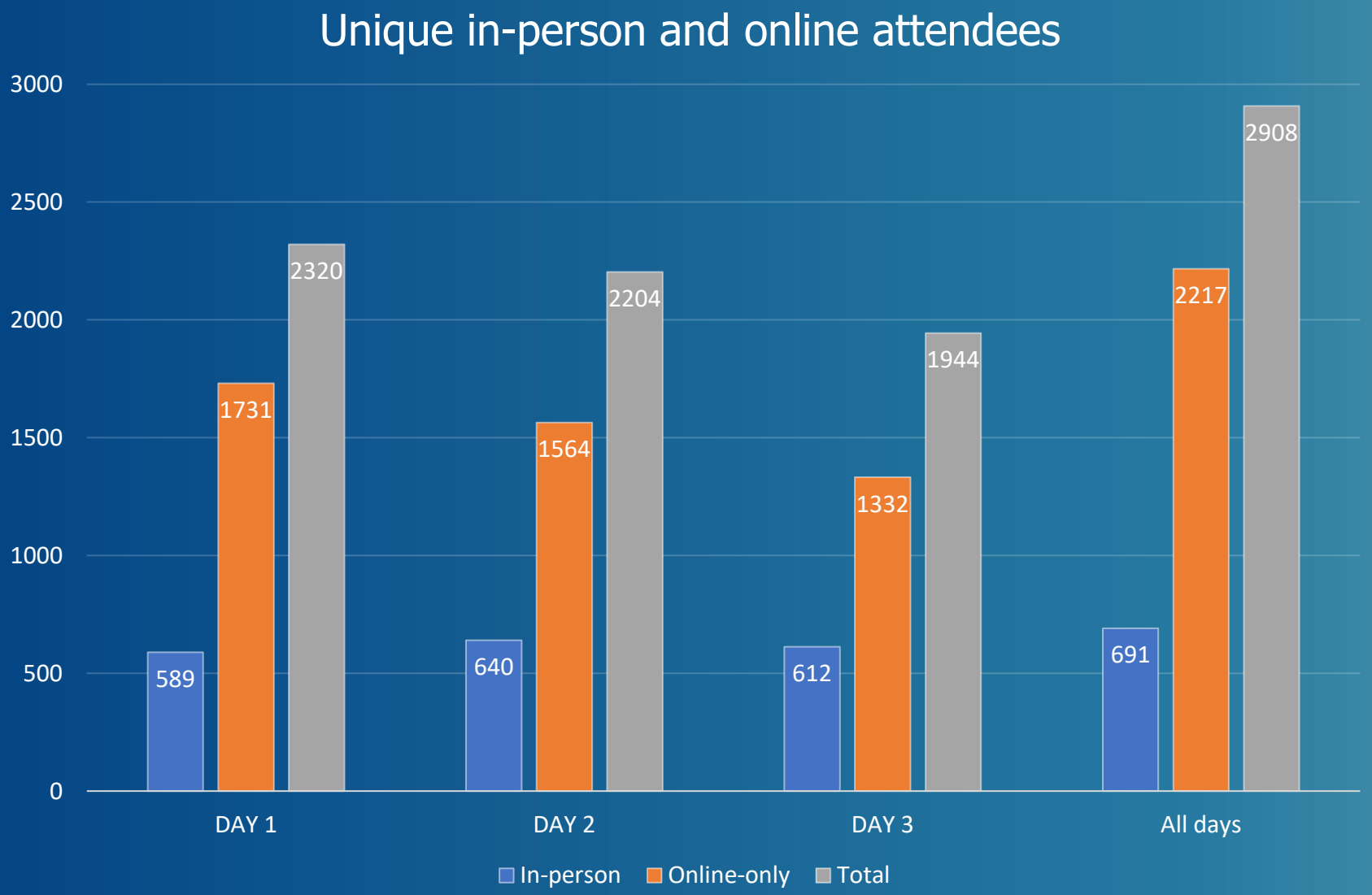
691
Unique in-person attendees

2 908
Active attendees in total

ESCAIDE 2025 received 4 171 registrations, with 3 405 signing up for online attendance and 766 for in-person participation. Of these, 75 registered participants did not show up to attend in person, and 1 188 did not participate online. In total, we had 2 908 active participants: 2 217 joined online, and 691 attended in person. We considered online attendees active if they accessed the platform, viewed sessions, added contacts, or participated in other activities during the event.

Due to high demand, in-person registrations closed in July after reaching full capacity in less than 48 hours. This demand for in-person attendance, as well as the waiting list of 300+ people, reflects a continuing increase in the popularity of the conference and an appreciation for the opportunities it offers. Registrations for online attendance remained open until the end of the conference.

Attendance



At ESCAIDE 2025, 691 participants attended in person, while 2 217 joined exclusively online. Daily attendance varied, with ~600–700 people on-site and 1 350–1 750 online each day.

During the conference, more than 2 471 participants used the online platform, as this figure does not include in-person attendees who also accessed it. Also, these numbers only cover activity during the conference days. Many participants, as in past years, log in after the event to watch videos on demand, which remain available until end of March 2026. This shows that engagement with the platform keeps growing even after the conference ends.

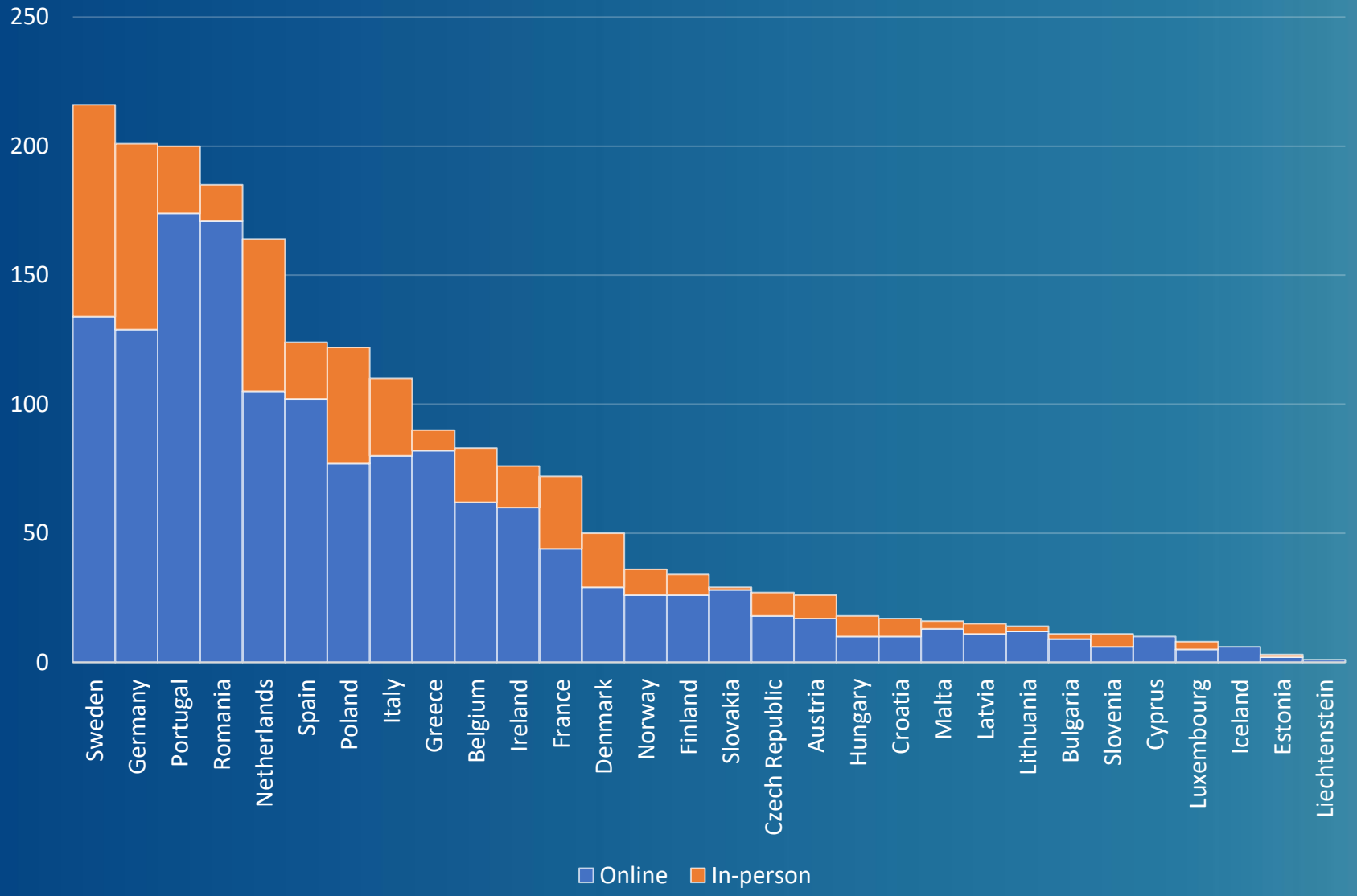
Country representation

126 Total countries represented	**61** Countries represented in-person	**27**	EU/EEA countries
		34	Outside EU/EEA countries
	118 Countries represented online	**30**	EU/EEA countries
		88	Outside EU/EEA countries

ESCAIDE 2025 registered participants indicated they were from 30 countries inside EU/EEA and from 96 countries outside EU/EEA.

126 countries were represented at ESCAIDE 2025, an increase from 2024, when 122 countries were represented. The hybrid format has continued to support broader participation. It allowed individuals to join who might otherwise have been unable to attend due to costs, travel constraints, or other barriers.

EU/EEA country representation



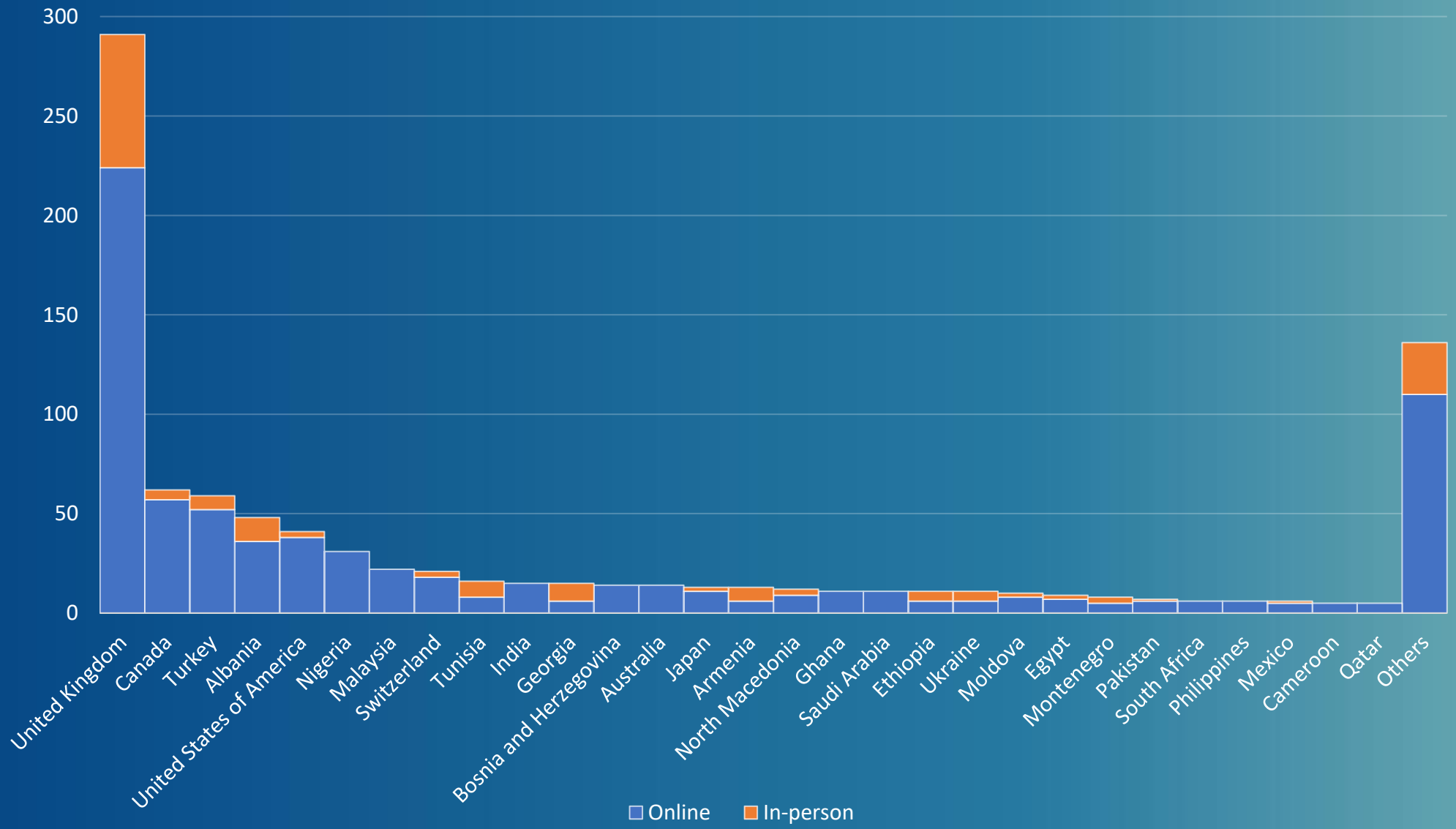
Participants registered either online or in person from all 27 EU countries, as well as Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway.

Sweden, Germany, and the Netherlands had the highest number of in-person participants with 82, 72, and 59, respectively.

Poland, which hosted the event, had 177 attendees in person and online.

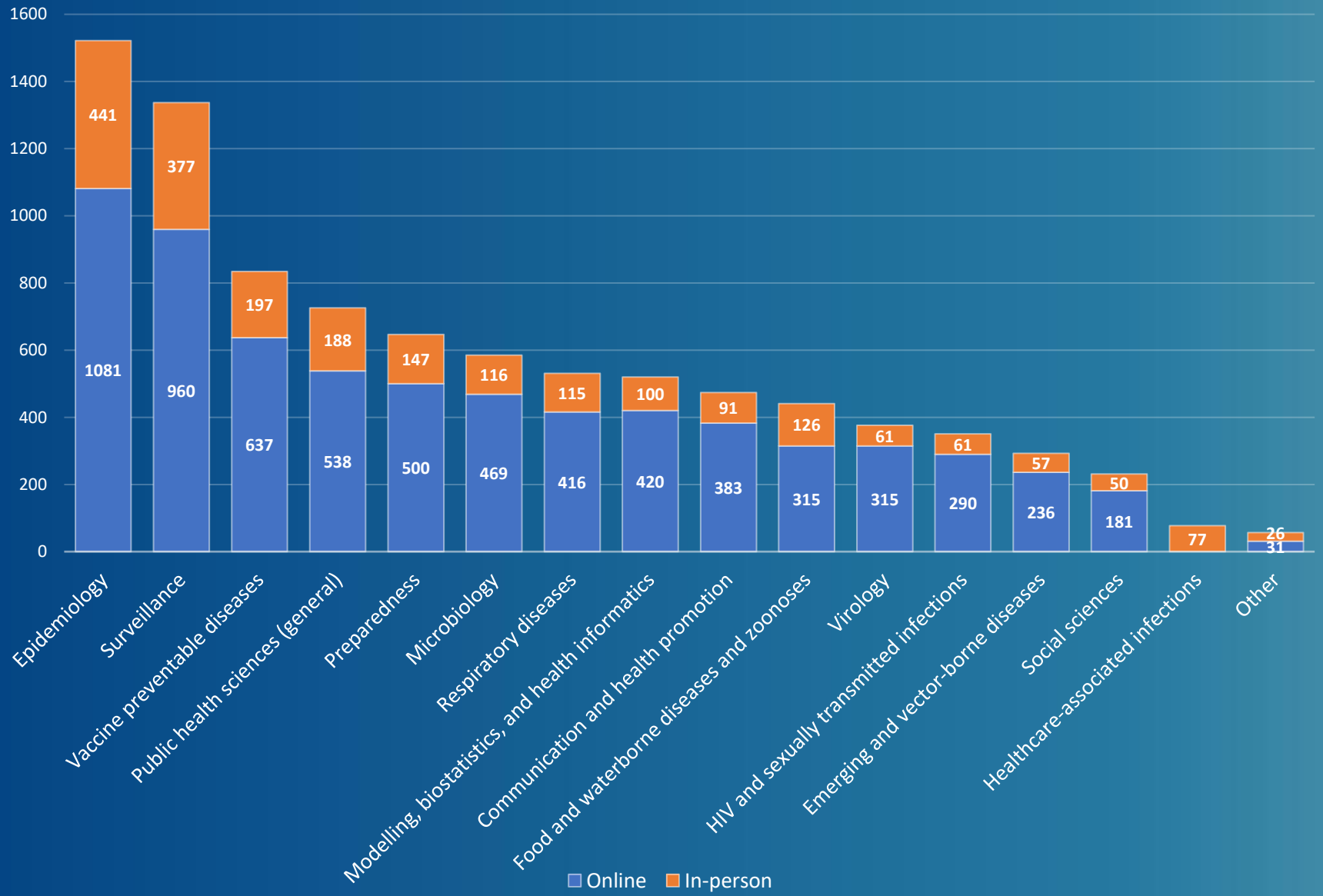
Romania and Portugal showed a strong preference for online attendance, likely influenced by factors such as distance, travel costs, or other barriers.

Outside EU/EEA country representation



There are 67 countries from which less than 10 participants registered (total online and in-person) to ESCAIDE, represented in 'Others'

Registered participants by field of expertise



Participants selected fields that best matched their expertise, with the option to select multiple categories. In total, amongst online and onsite participants, 1 522 chose epidemiology, 1 337 selected surveillance, 834 identified with vaccine-preventable diseases, 726 with generic public health sciences, and 647 with preparedness.

57 participants also indicated 'Other' fields of expertise and specified them in a free text box.

Conference online platform (hosted by *Swapcard*)

Main features, usage and engagement from 19 to 21 November 2025

Web app

Participants list (search by attendee or role)
Info stands to visit
Home
My QR Code ticket
LIVE
Programme
Participants
Plenaries
Firesides
Poster tours
Posters
Side events
Info stands
Photo contest
Download the app
Floor plan
Helpdesk
Access to programme
Name Surname
Job description
Organisation
Participants profile
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HYBRID
Warsaw and online
My QR Code ticket
LIVE
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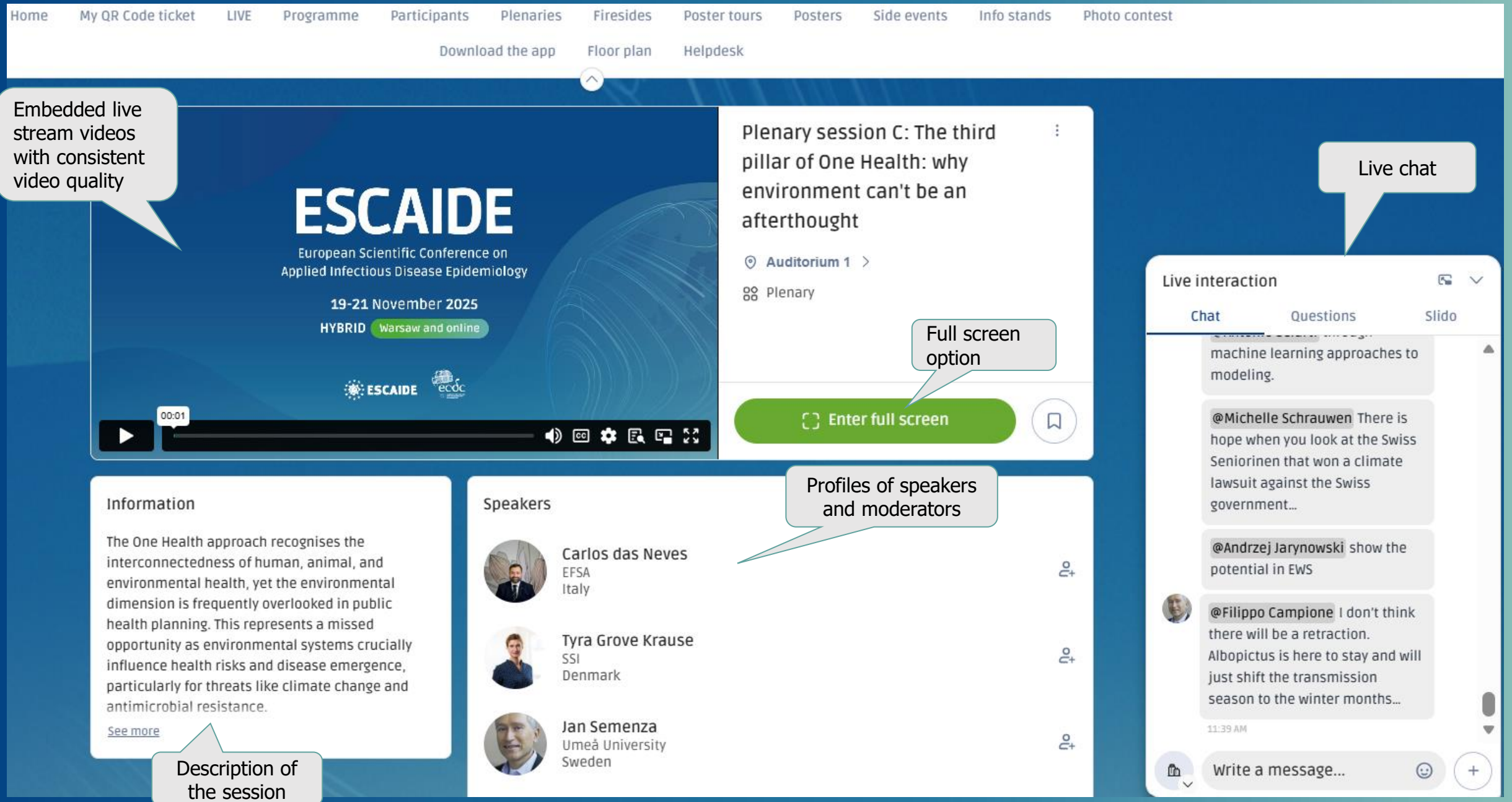
Participants
Plenaries
Firesides
Home menu
ESCAIDE
Let us know what you think of ESCAIDE 2025
COMPLETE THE FEEDBACK SURVEY BY SUNDAY 7 DECEMBER (23:59 CET)
Learn more
Customisable banners

Web app


Home
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Download the app
Floor plan
Helpdesk
Embedded live stream videos with consistent video quality
ESCAIDE
European Scientific Conference on Applied Infectious Disease Epidemiology
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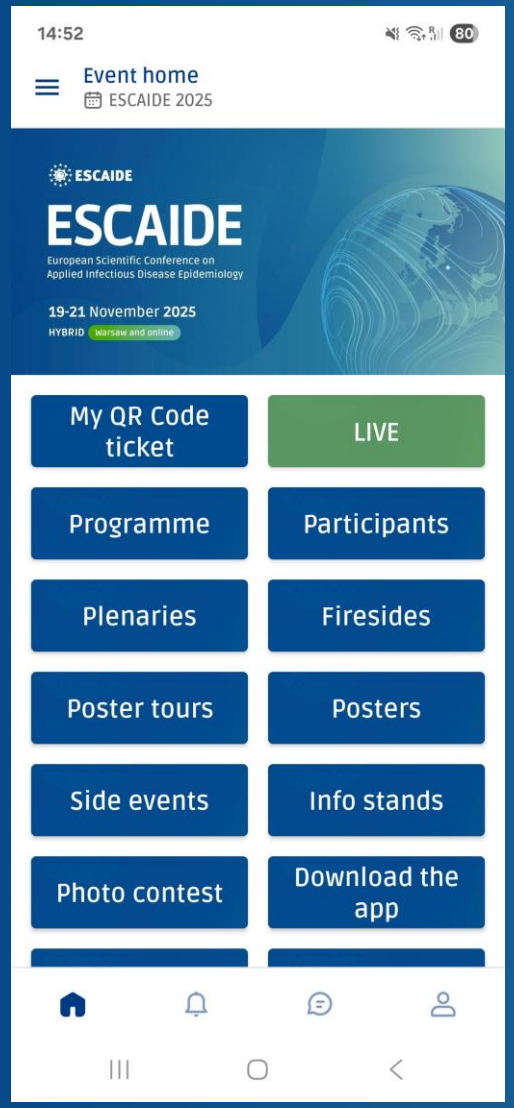
HYBRID
Warsaw and online
ESCAIDE
ecdc
00:01
Plenary session C: The third pillar of One Health: why environment can't be an afterthought
Auditorium 1
Plenary
Full screen option
Enter full screen
Live chat
Live interaction
Chat
Questions
Slido
machine learning approaches to modeling.
@Michelle Schrauwen There is hope when you look at the Swiss Seniorinen that won a climate lawsuit against the Swiss government...
@Andrzej Jarynowski show the potential in EWS
@Filippo Campione I don't think there will be a retraction. Albopictus is here to stay and will just shift the transmission season to the winter months...
11:39 AM
Write a message...
Information
The One Health approach recognises the interconnectedness of human, animal, and environmental health, yet the environmental dimension is frequently overlooked in public health planning. This represents a missed opportunity as environmental systems crucially influence health risks and disease emergence, particularly for threats like climate change and antimicrobial resistance.
See more
Description of the session
Speakers
Profiles of speakers and moderators
Carlos das Neves
EFSA
Italy
Tyra Grove Krause
SSI
Denmark
Jan Semenza
Umeå University
Sweden

Mobile app


14:52
Event home
ESCAIDE 2025
ESCAIDE
European Scientific Conference on Applied Infectious Disease Epidemiology
19-21 November 2025
HYBRID Warsaw and online
My QR Code ticket
LIVE
Programme
Participants
Plenaries
Firesides
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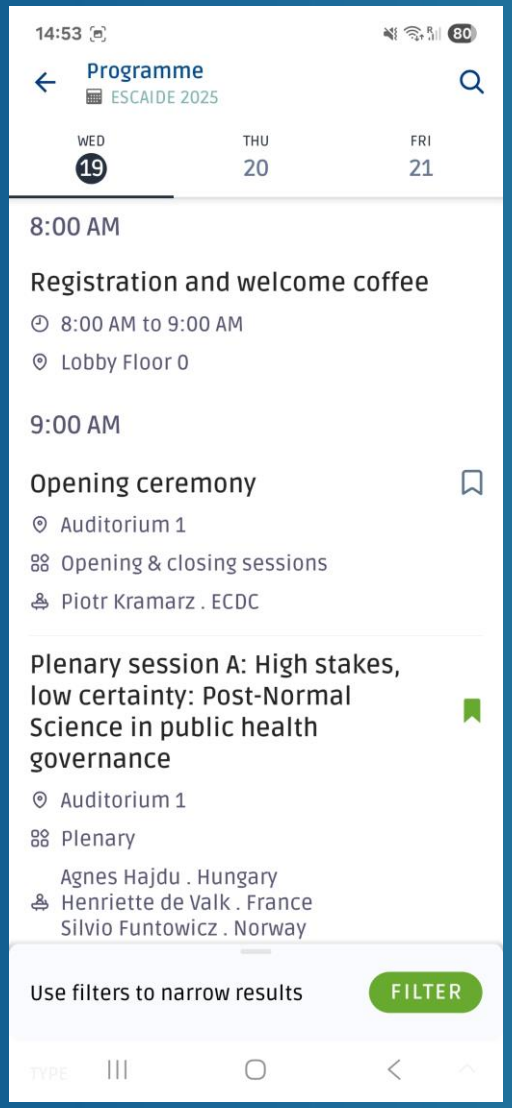
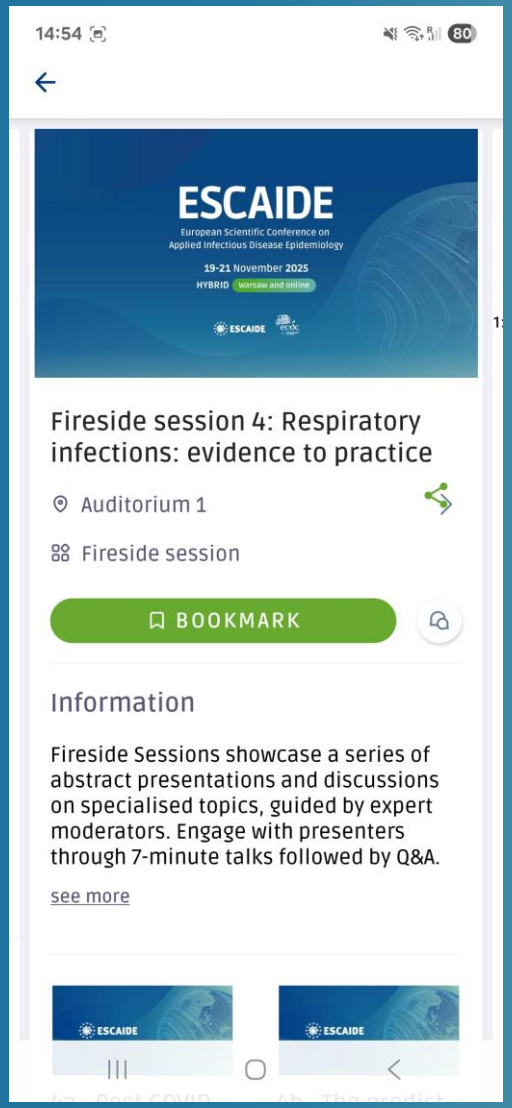
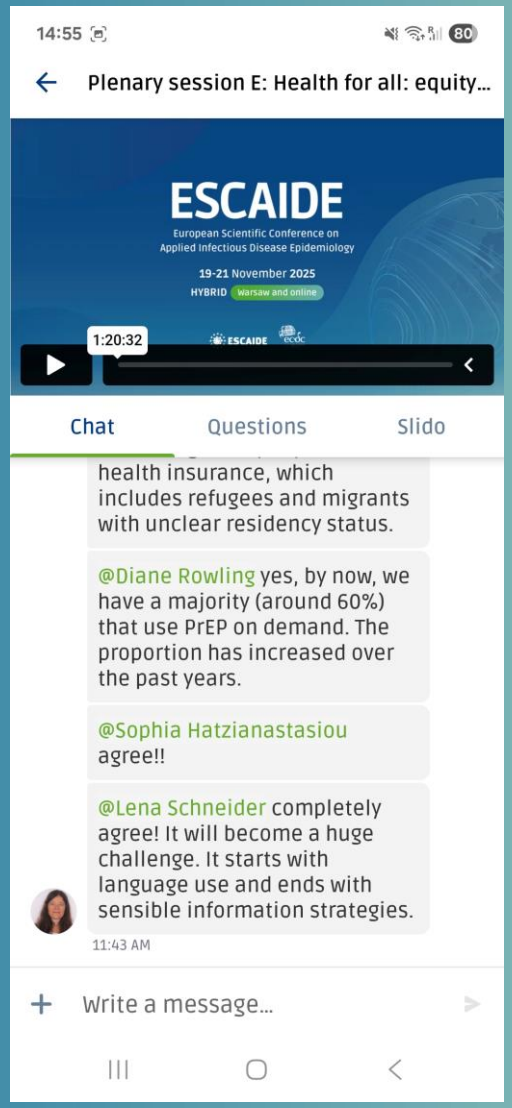
Info stands
Photo contest
Download the app


14:53
Programme
ESCAIDE 2025
WED 19
THU 20
FRI 21
8:00 AM
Registration and welcome coffee
8:00 AM to 9:00 AM
Lobby Floor 0
9:00 AM
Opening ceremony
Auditorium 1
Opening & closing sessions
Piotr Kramarz . ECDC
Plenary session A: High stakes, low certainty: Post-Normal Science in public health governance
Auditorium 1
Plenary
Agnes Hajdu . Hungary
Henriette de Valk . France
Silvio Funtowicz . Norway
Use filters to narrow results
FILTER


14:54
ESCAIDE
European Scientific Conference on Applied Infectious Disease Epidemiology
19-21 November 2025
HYBRID Warsaw and online
Fireside session 4: Respiratory infections: evidence to practice
Auditorium 1
Fireside session
BOOKMARK
Information
Fireside Sessions showcase a series of abstract presentations and discussions on specialised topics, guided by expert moderators. Engage with presenters through 7-minute talks followed by Q&A.
see more


14:55
Plenary session E: Health for all: equity...
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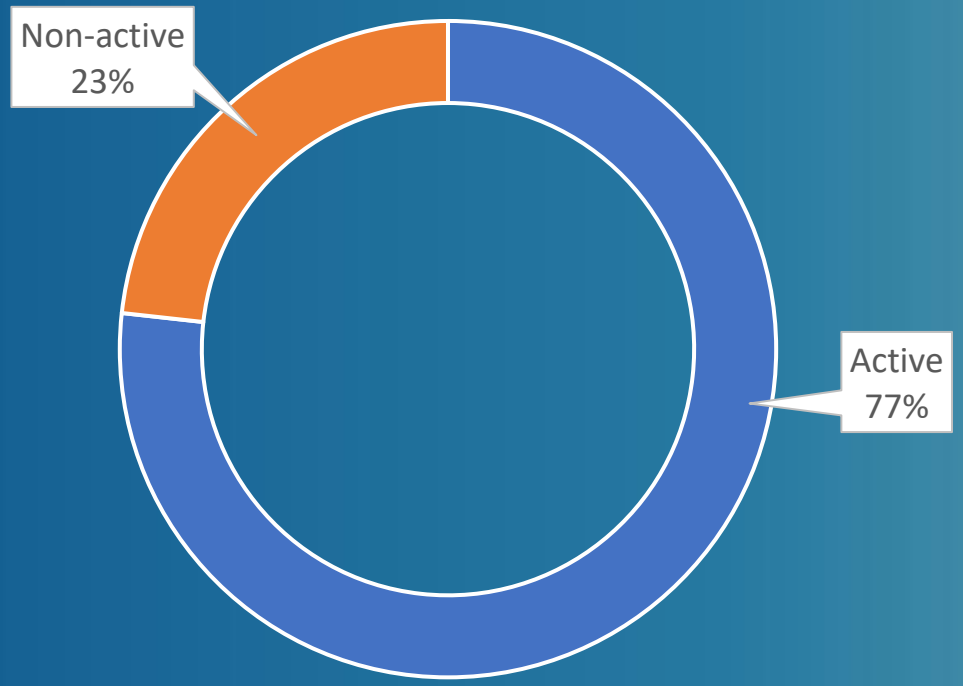
European Scientific Conference on Applied Infectious Disease Epidemiology
19-21 November 2025
HYBRID Warsaw and online
1:20:32
Chat
Questions
Slido
health insurance, which includes refugees and migrants with unclear residency status.
@Diane Rowling yes, by now, we have a majority (around 60%) that use PrEP on demand. The proportion has increased over the past years.
@Sophia Hatzianastasiou agree!!
@Lena Schneider completely agree! It will become a huge challenge. It starts with language use and ends with sensible information strategies.
11:43 AM
Write a message...

Mobile and web apps usage

Online

Active users on the web and mobile app



Out of the 4 171 participants registered for the conference, 2 908 actively engaged with the platform during the event. This included logging in to view sessions, add contacts, bookmark posters and info-stands, or register for specific sessions.

It appears that 1 263 participants registered for ESCAIDE 2025 but did not log in to the app during the conference. Some of these may have attended in person without using the app, while others were likely digital no-shows.

Mobile and web apps usage

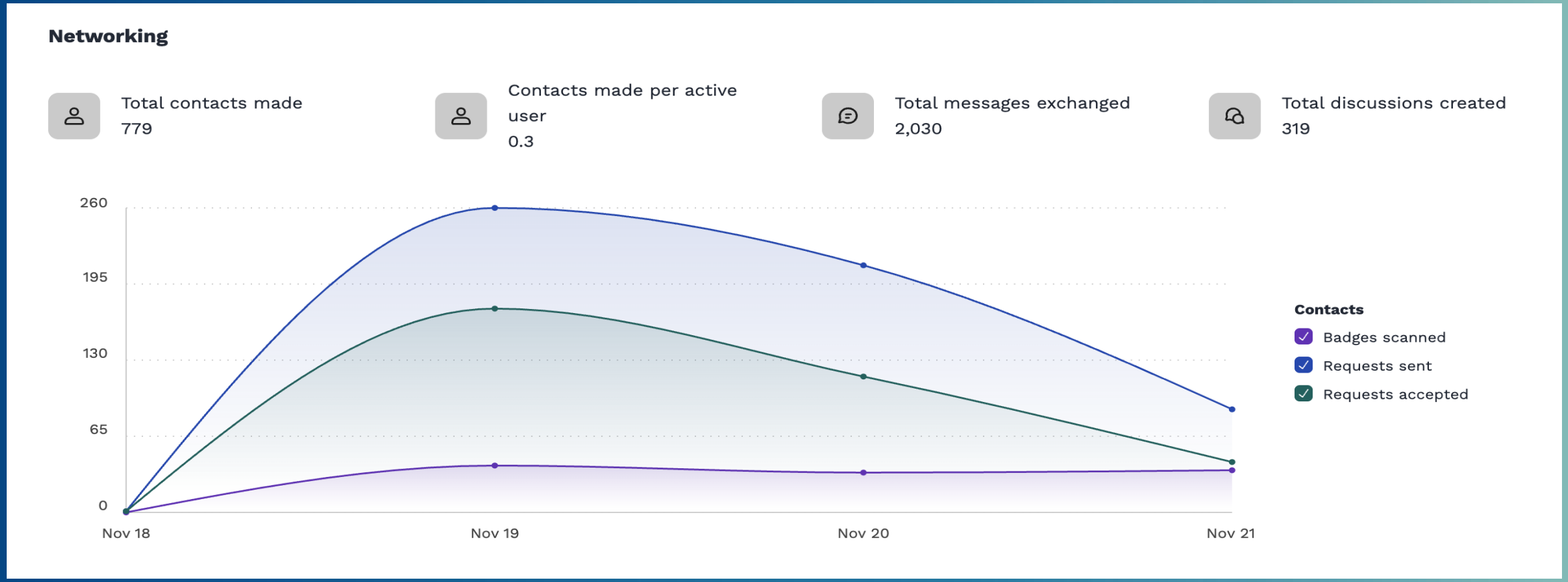
Online

Programme 42% 22,351 views	LIVE 31.9% 17,005 views	Participants 4.4% 2,347 views	Posters 3.4% 1,824 views
Firesides 3.2% 1,726 views	Plenaries 2.5% 1,338 views	My QR Code ticket 2.3% 1,244 views	Photo contest 2.1% 1,137 views
Poster tours 2% 1,057 views	Floor plan 1.9% 988 views	Side events 1.6% 846 views	Download the app 1.2% 662 views
Info stands 0.9% 466 views	Helpdesk 0.5% 289 views		

The "Programme" page was the most visited feature (42% of all page views), as it provided convenient access to all conference content. Page views for specific sessions, such as Posters, Firesides, Plenaries, and Side events were lower because most participants watched live broadcasts via the "Live" page, where their views were recorded.

Mobile and web apps usage

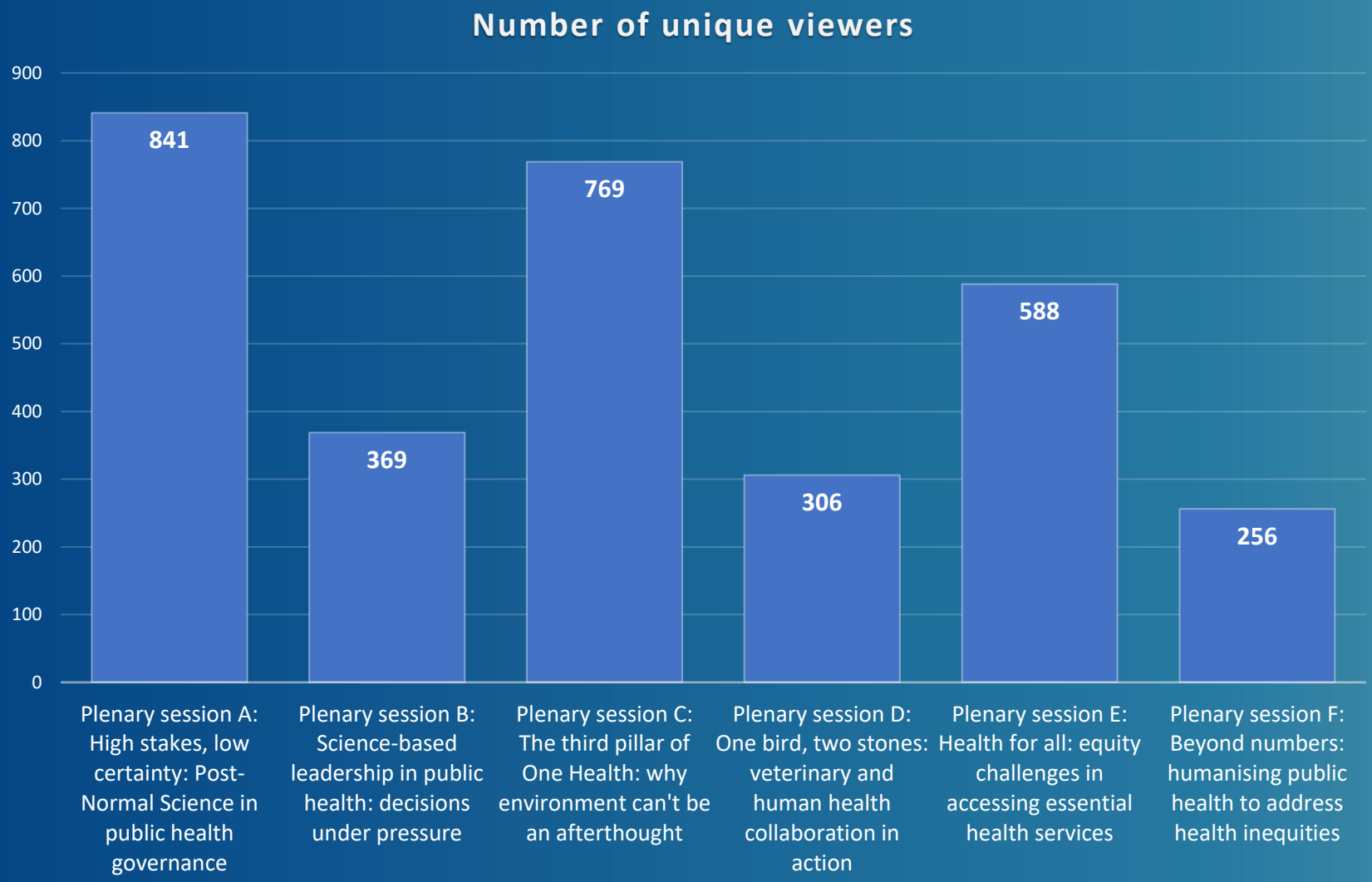
Online



Overall, ESCAIDE's online platform provided valuable opportunities for networking and connection. Throughout the conference, participants sent 2 030 messages, comments and questions via the mobile and web app. The volume of activity in session chat boxes, including comments, questions, and discussions, highlights the active engagement of viewers.

Plenary sessions

Online



Charts in this section represent the online viewers for plenary sessions. Viewers were counted as "unique viewers", which means that even if they watch more than once, that person counts as one unique viewer. Measuring "unique viewers" gives a clearer picture of the audience size.

Plenary sessions took place in hybrid format: they could be viewed either through the web and mobile apps or attended in person.

The sessions in the morning (Plenaries A, C and E) had more online viewers than the sessions in the afternoon (B, D and F).

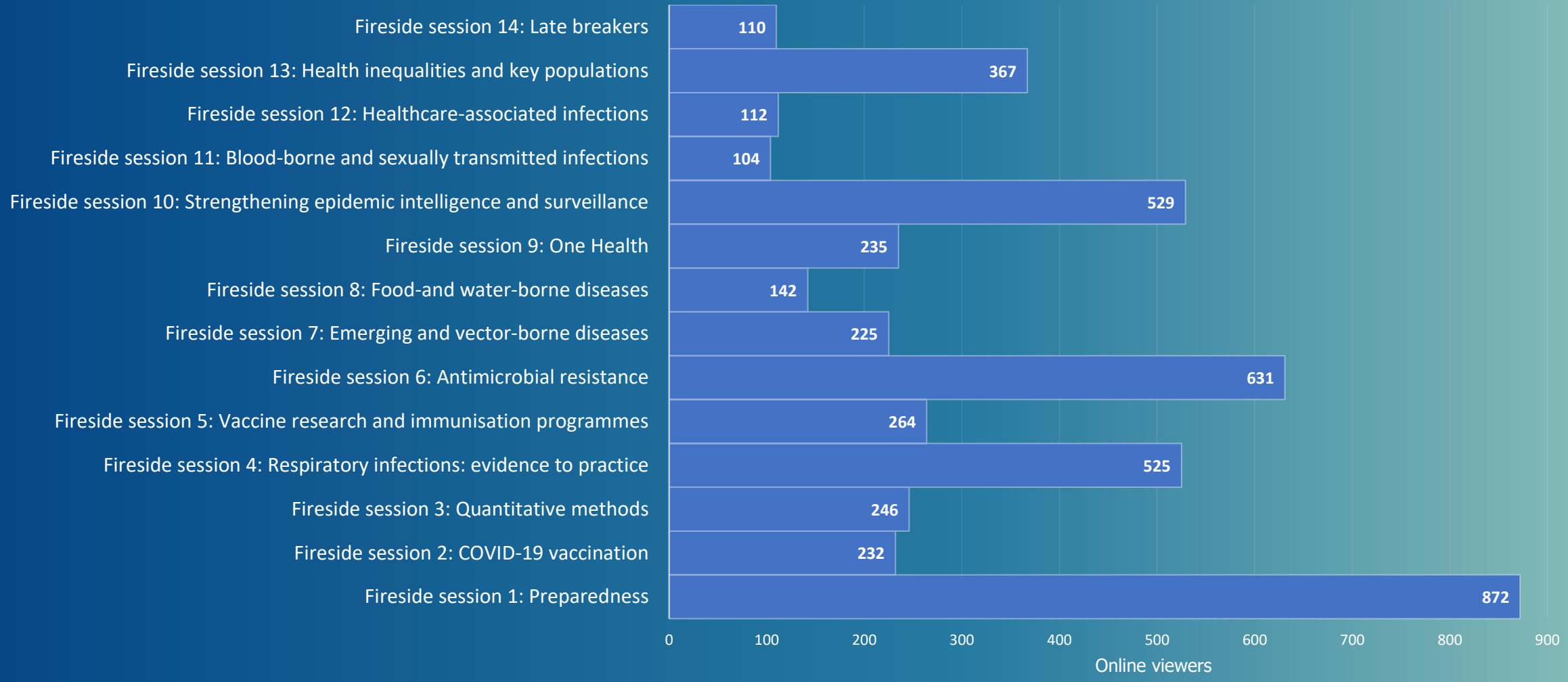
Plenary sessions audience polls

To enhance audience participation during Plenary sessions, speakers and moderators asked questions to the audience through Slido polls. Participants both in-person and online could scan QR codes with their phones and answer live polls during the session. The results were then displayed onscreen and commented on by the panelists.

	Questions	Respondents
Plenary A	In a health crisis there can be disagreement between health experts on what to do. Should health experts openly talk about uncertainty and sometimes publicly disagree, or should they try to speak with one voice?	522
Plenary C	In your country is there a collaboration in place with the environmental sector related to surveillance, research or risk assessment?	248
	In your country do you use or collect data from the environmental sector for surveillance, research or risk assessment?	157
Plenary D	From your experience, what would you consider as the biggest barrier to effective vet-human health collaboration?	140

Fireside sessions – online participants

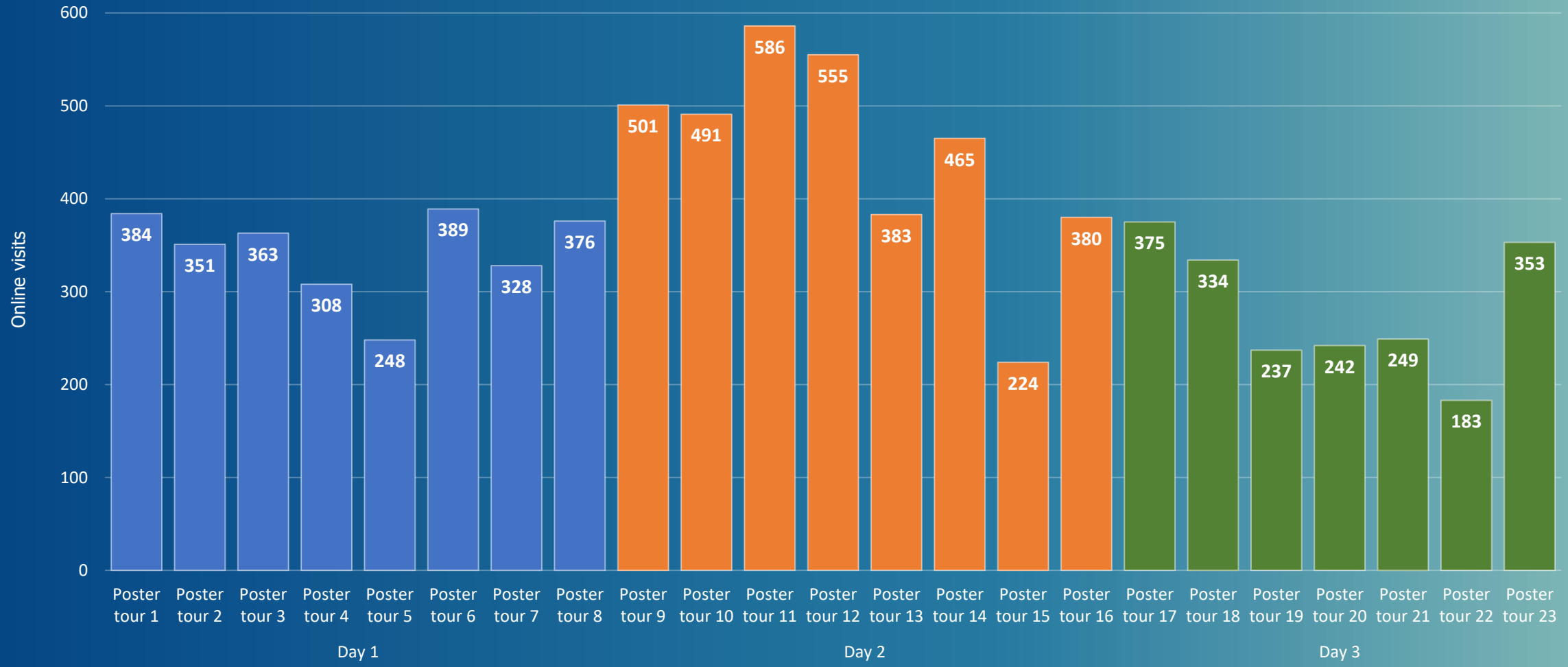
Online



Fireside sessions ran in parallel, often with 2 or more sessions happening at the same time in a hybrid format. Participants could join online via the web or mobile apps or attend in person.

Posters

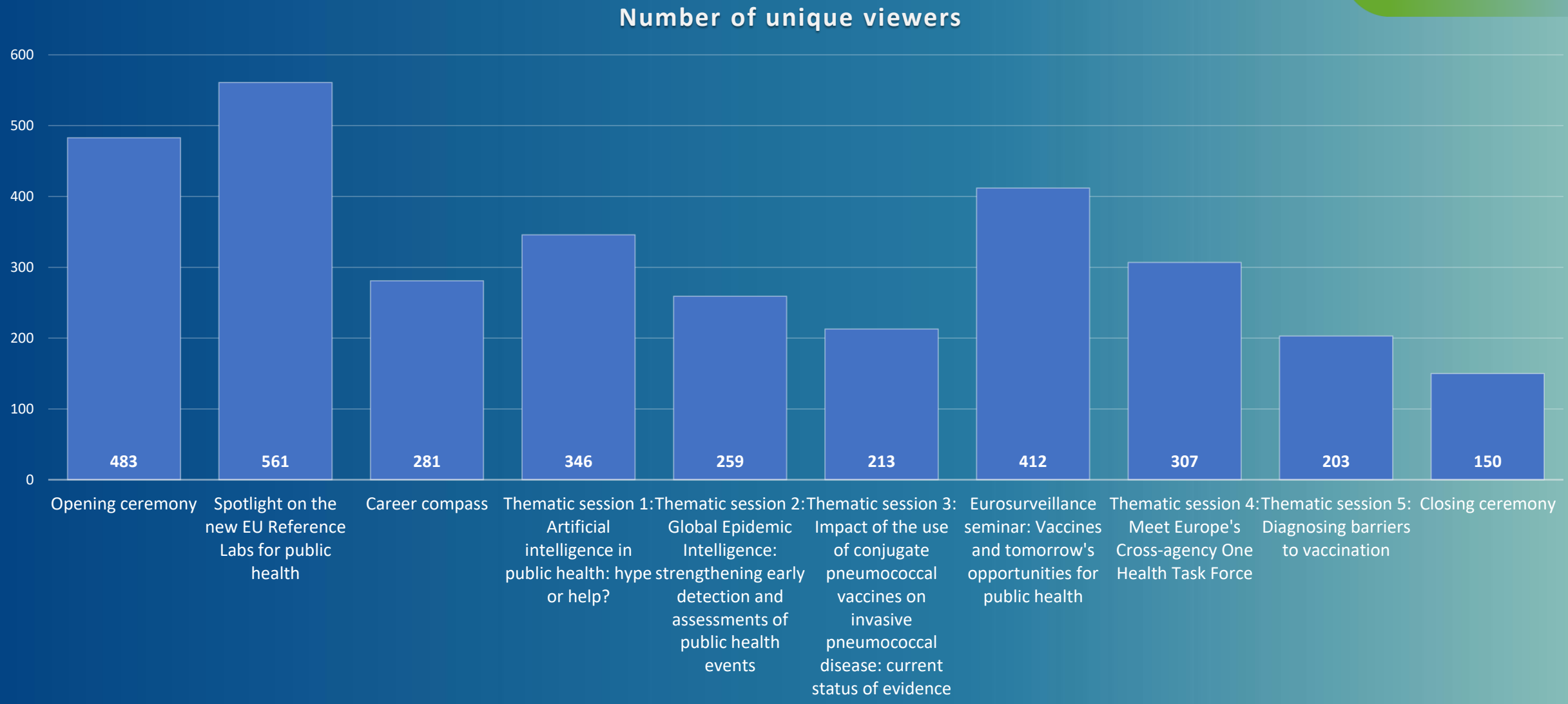
Online



Poster tours were held in parallel, with seven or eight tours running simultaneously. As last year, the tours were conducted exclusively in person with 133 posters presented. The online platform received 1 057 views of these posters during the three days of the conference.

Side sessions

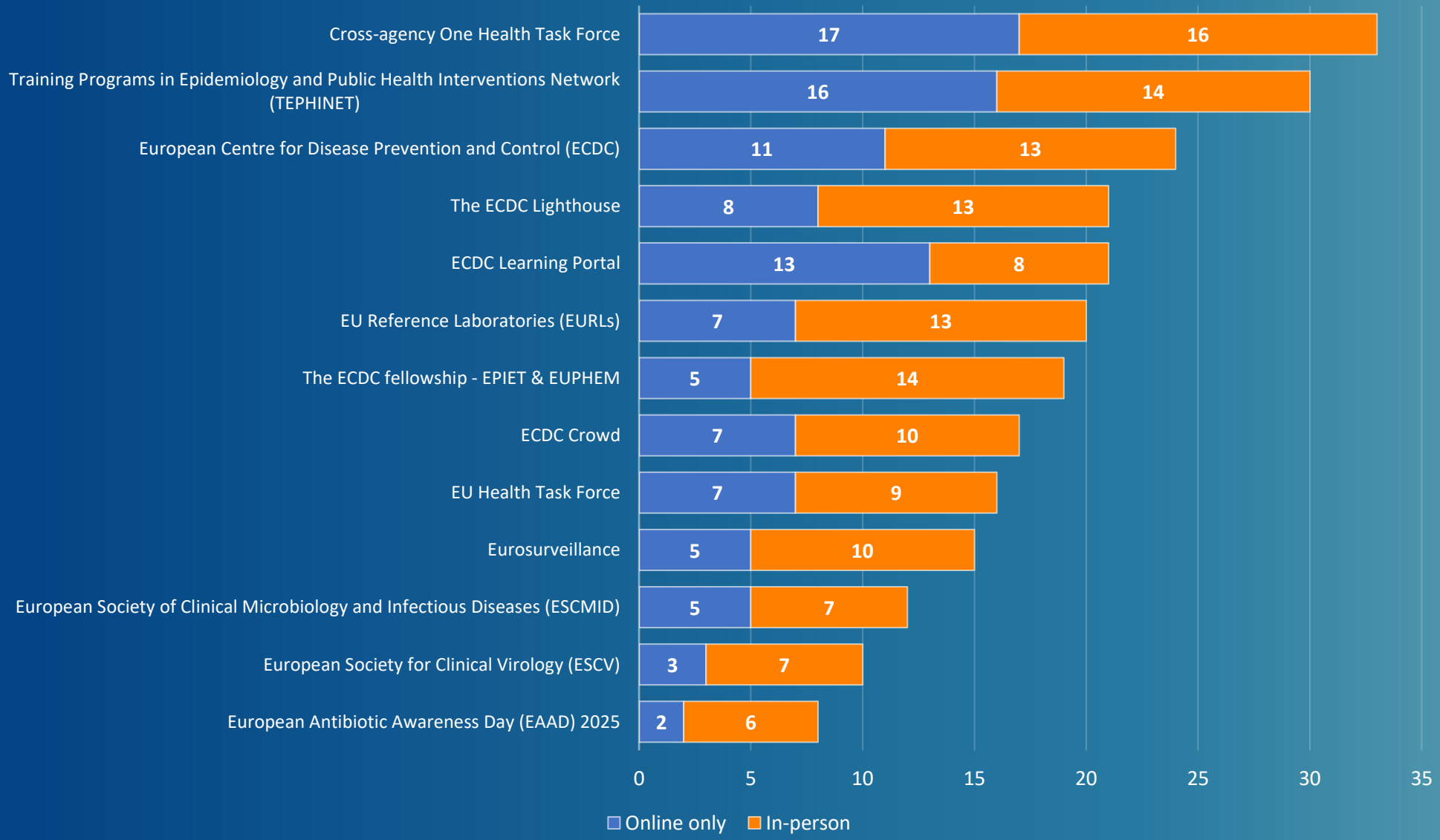
Online



Side sessions were conducted in a hybrid format, accessible online via the web and mobile app or in person. However, BarCamp and Science communication through conversation were exclusively in-person and are not included in the online listing.

Info stands

Online

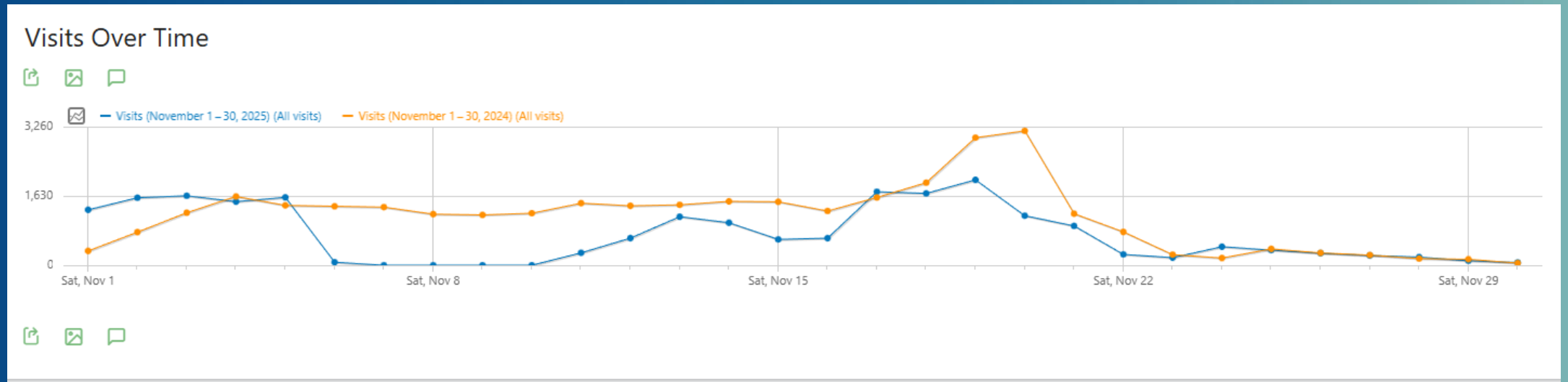


Exhibitors were able to showcase their work and organisations at ESCAIDE 2025, both onsite in the info stand area and through the online platform. The chart reflects the total number of unique visitors to the online info stands, and whether they attended the conference in person or online only. We don't have data on in-person visits, as this was monitored independently by the info stand owners.

Website, social media and press and media

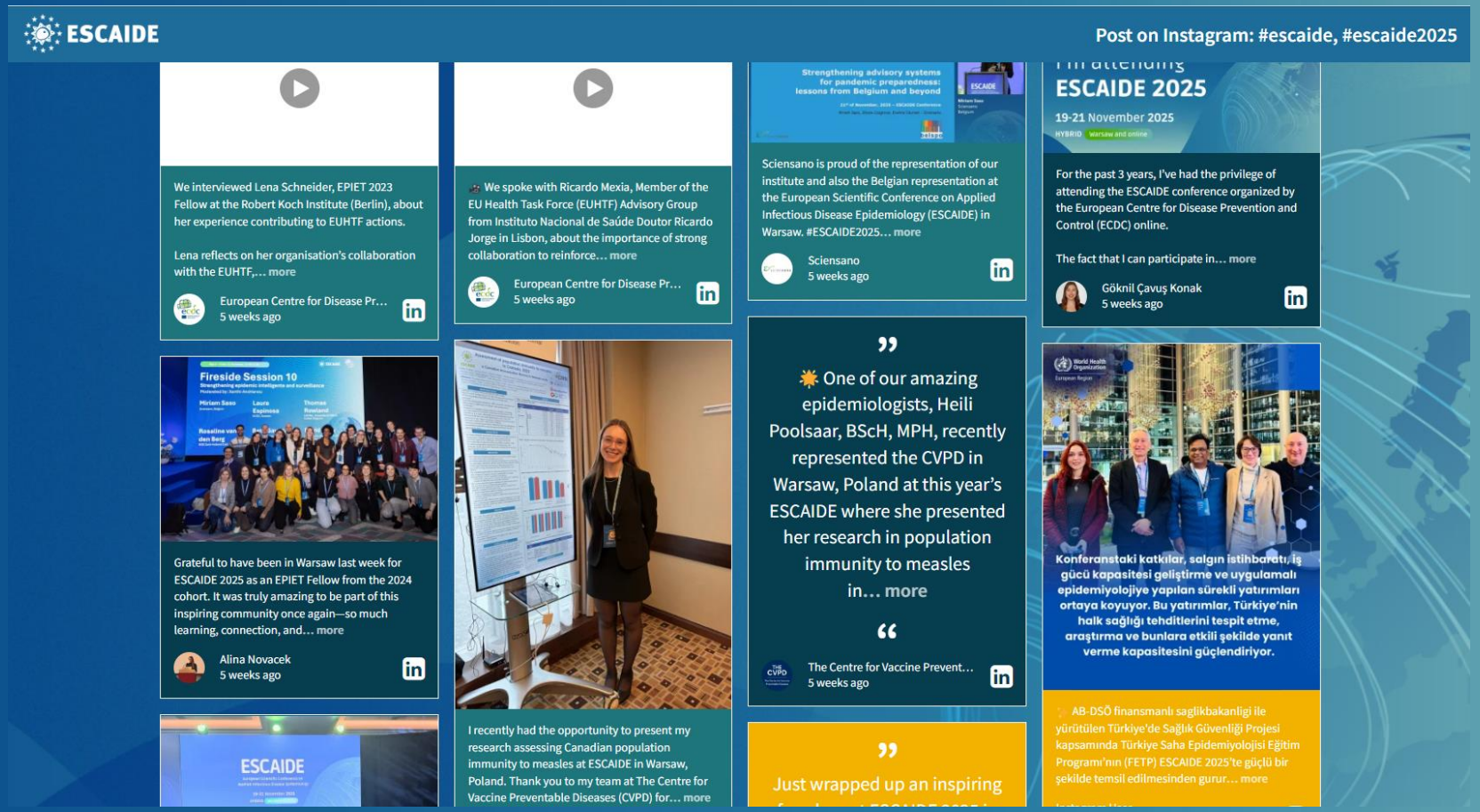
Website

In November 2025, there was a decrease of 22.3% in page views on the ESCAIDE website compared to November 2024. Most visitors came from Romania (5 271), the United States (3 098), the United Kingdom (2 949), and Bulgaria (1 298).



Social media

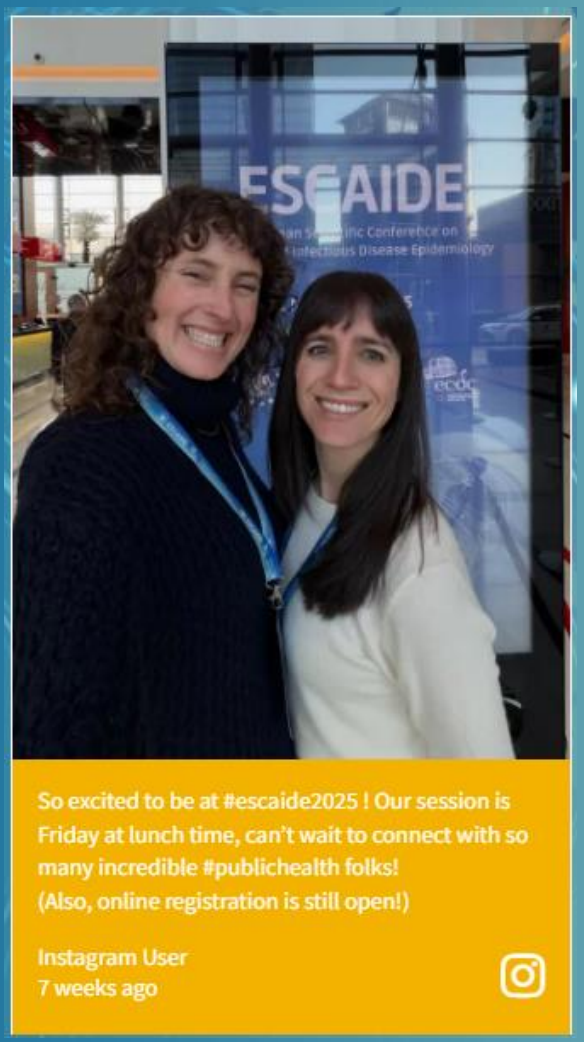
A social media wall showcased live updates from Instagram, LinkedIn, Bluesky, and Facebook, using the conference hashtag #ESCAIDE2025. This feature encouraged real-time sharing, increased visibility, and creating a sense of community, making it a key engagement point during the conference.



[ESCAIDE 2025 social media wall]

Social media

This year ESCAIDE collaborated with the podcast This Podcast Will Kill You, hosted by epidemiologists Erin Walsh and Erin Allmann Updyke.
Both hosts spoke at an in-person side session dedicated to science communication, which was attended by an estimated 150-180 participants at the venue.



Press and media

Health > News Health

DEADLY BUG Cases of life-threatening winter virus spiking in kids right now – as parents urged to watch for key warning signs

Plus, the symptoms in your child that indicate you need to call 999

Eliza Loukou, Health Reporter
Published: 14:28, 21 Nov 2025 | **Updated:** 10:04, 25 Nov 2025

Farm workers urged to get flu jab to prevent avian and human virus strains mixing

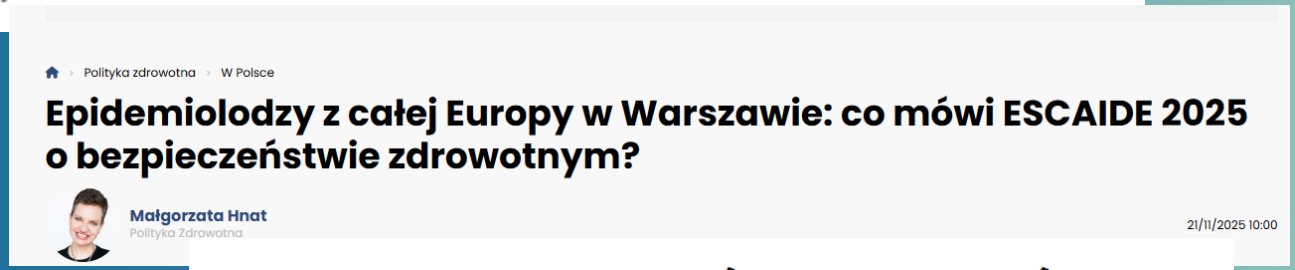
If the viruses were to combine, bird flu could start spread human-to-human, sparking a new pandemic, experts warn

WORLD

UK Foodborne outbreak updates shared at ESCAIDE

Long-running outbreaks included in UK report.

by JOE WHITWORTH



Polityka zdrowotna › W Polsce

Epidemiolodzy z całej Europy w Warszawie: co mówi ESCAIDE 2025 o bezpieczeństwie zdrowotnym?

Małgorzata Hnat
Polityka Zdrowotna

21/11/2025 10:00

ESCAIDE 2025: Ξεκινά το No1 συνέδριο Δημόσιας Υγείας για τα λοιμώδη νοσήματα στην Ευρώπη – Ποιο είναι το μήνυμά του

Επιστήμονες από όλο τον κόσμο δίνουν ραντεβού στη Βαρσοβία για το κορυφαίο συνέδριο δημόσιας υγείας της Ευρώπης

YGEIAMOU.GR TEAM — 18/11/2025 08:51:14

Polityka Zdrowotna
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Termedia
https://www.termedia.pl/mz/Epidemiolodzy-o-bezpieczenstwie-zdrowotnym,64946.html
Ygeiamou
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Telegraph
https://www.telegraph.co.uk/global-health/science-and-disease/farm-workers-urged-to-get-flu-jab-to-prevent-strains-mixing/
The Sun
https://www.thesun.co.uk/health/37395965/life-threatening-virus-spiking-kids-parents-urged-watch-signs/
https://www.thesun.co.uk/health/31844920/bird-flu-pandemic-mutate-human-canada/
Food Safety News
https://www.foodsafetynews.com/2025/12/uk-outbreak-updates-shared-at-escaide/

Sustainability at ESCAIDE

Overview of initiatives contributing to a greener and healthier ESCAIDE

ESCAIDE and the Sustainable Development Goals

This year, the ESCAIDE team reflected on sustainability at ESCAIDE and published a report on the conference's alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In addition to continuing with the sustainability efforts of previous years, new initiatives were included in line with SDGs 4, 10, 11, and 12 to ensure quality education, reduce inequalities, promote sustainable cities and communities, and responsible consumption and production.

Read the ESCAIDE and SDGs report

Feedback survey

Feedback from participants collected via online survey from 21 November to 7 December 2025

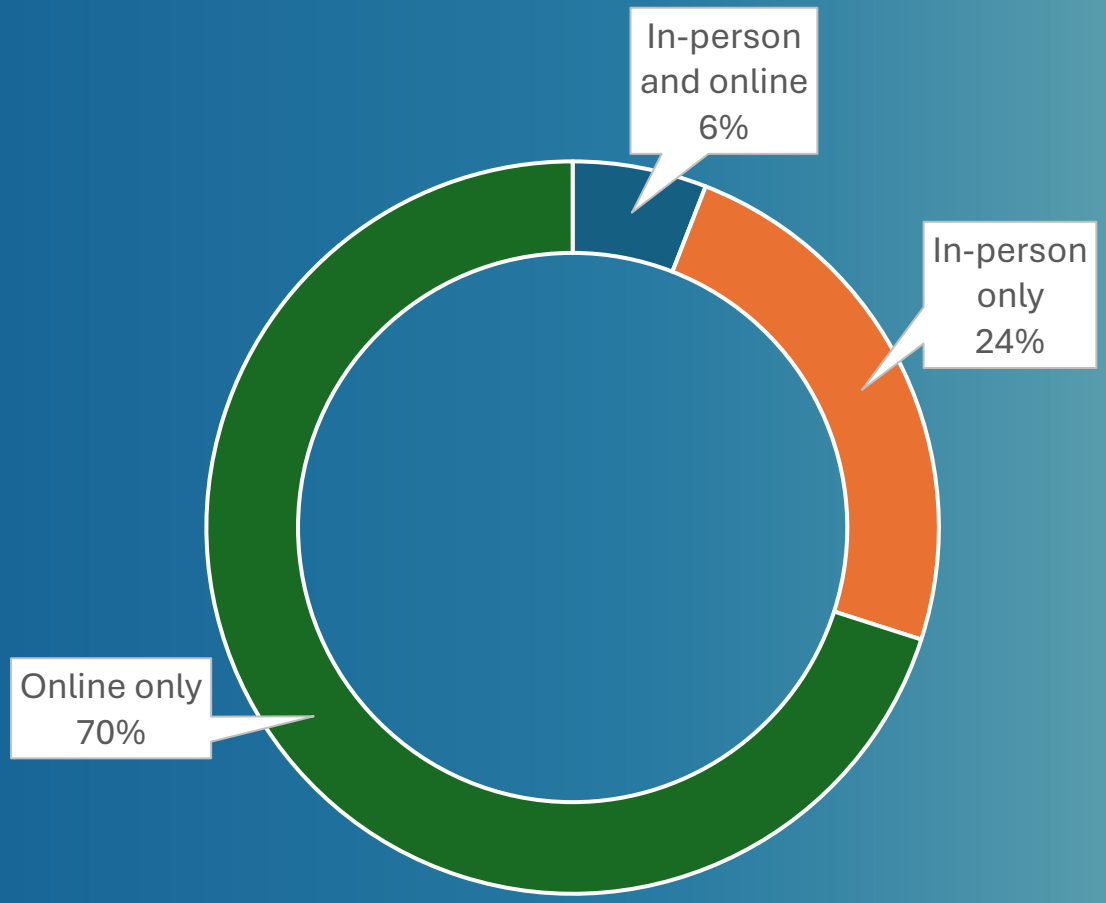
Feedback survey results

n=1132

1. How did you attend ESCAIDE 2025?

Two email invitations and a notification to complete the survey were sent to all registered participants, of which 1 132 completed the survey, from 21 November until 7 December.

The reponse rate was 38.9%, whereas in ESCAIDE 2024 was 43.6% and ESCAIDE 2023, 27%.



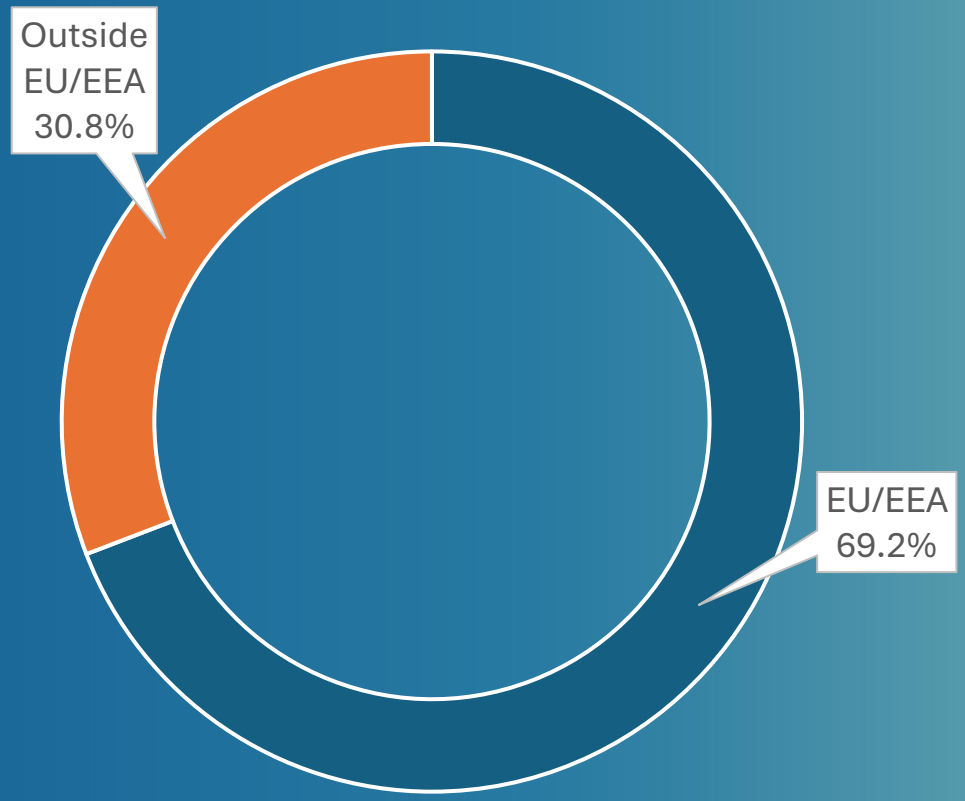
70.1% of respondents attended ESCAIDE online only, while 24.0% participated in person only and 5.6% in-person and online.

Feedback survey results

n=1132

2. Where do you currently work?

30.8% of respondents were from outside the EU/EEA, while 69.2% were from EU/EEA countries. This matches the overall response rates from previous years: for ESCAIDE 2024 30.8% of respondents were from outside the EU/EEA, while 69.2% were from EU/EEA countries.



Feedback survey results

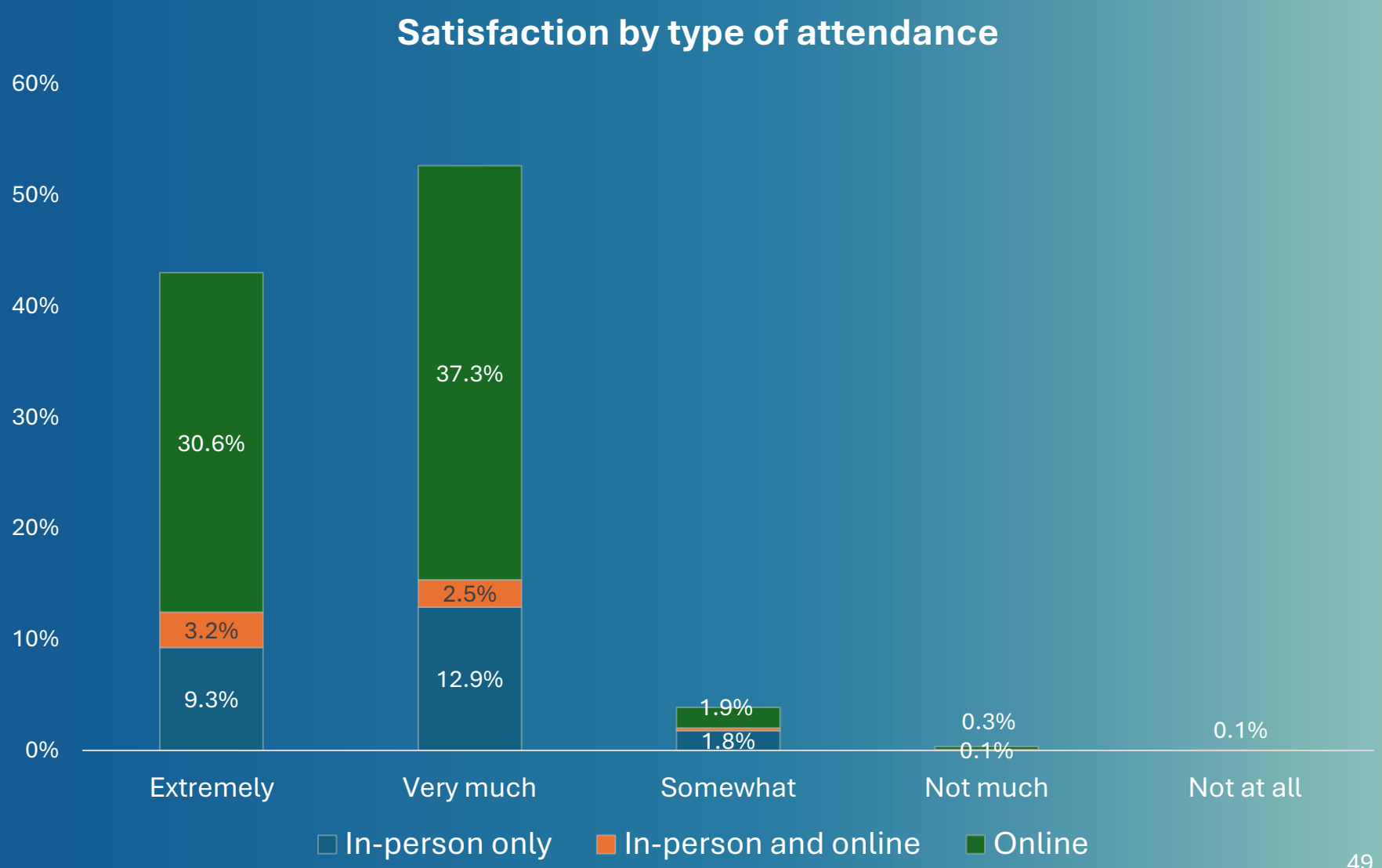
n=1132

5.1. Overall, how satisfied are you with ESCAIDE 2025?

The feedback survey results were overwhelmingly positive. A total of 95.7% of respondents reported being either 'extremely' (487 responses) or 'very much' (596 responses) satisfied with the event. This satisfaction did not vary significantly whether participants had attended ESCAIDE for the first time, or several times already.

The 'Somewhat', 'Not much', and 'Not at all' categories had very few responses, with only 44, 1, and 1 respectively, showing that dissatisfaction was minimal.

The strong majority of positive feedback highlights the conference's success in delivering a fulfilling experience for both online and onsite audiences.

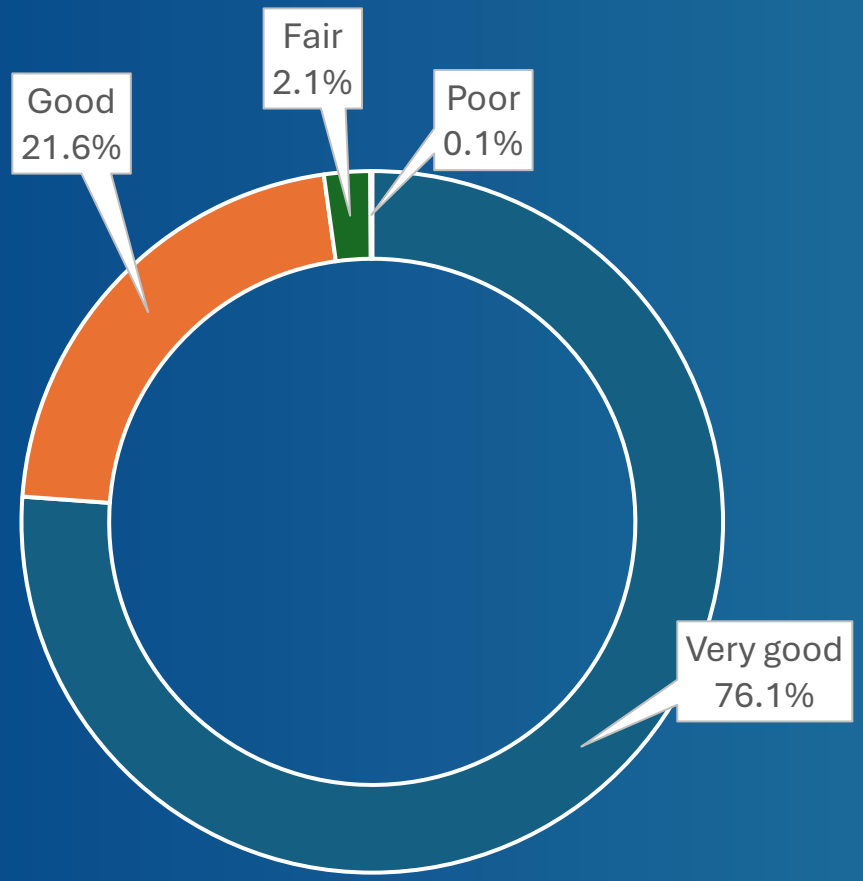


Feedback survey results

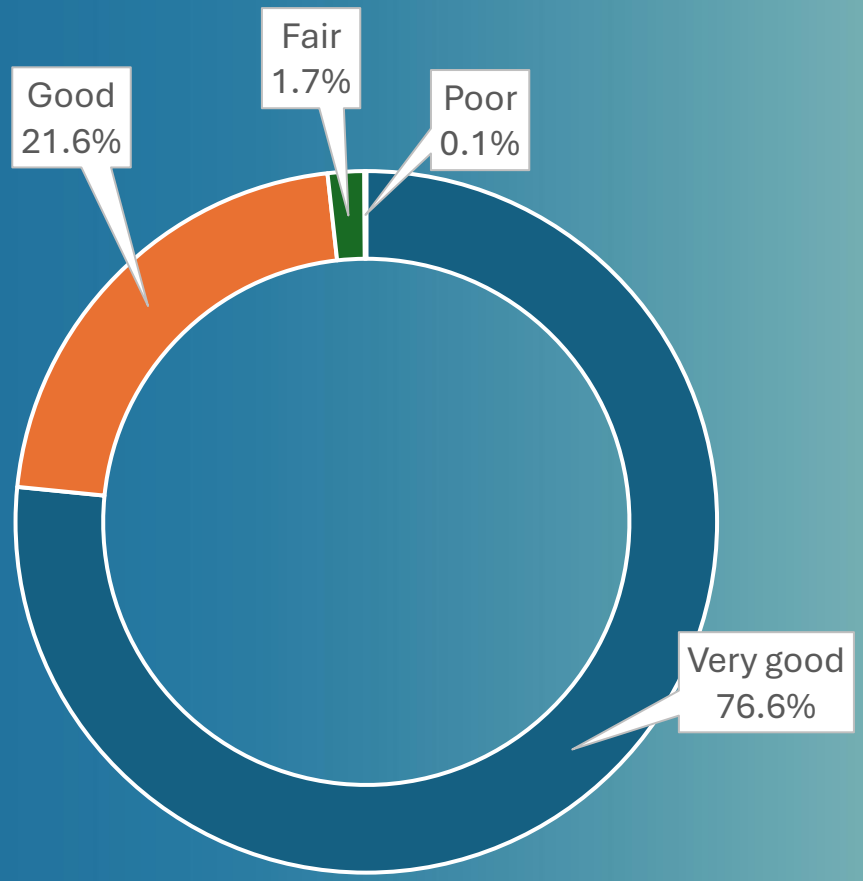
n=1132

5.2. What is your overall impression of the following aspects of ESCAIDE 2025?

The quality of the conference programme and sessions



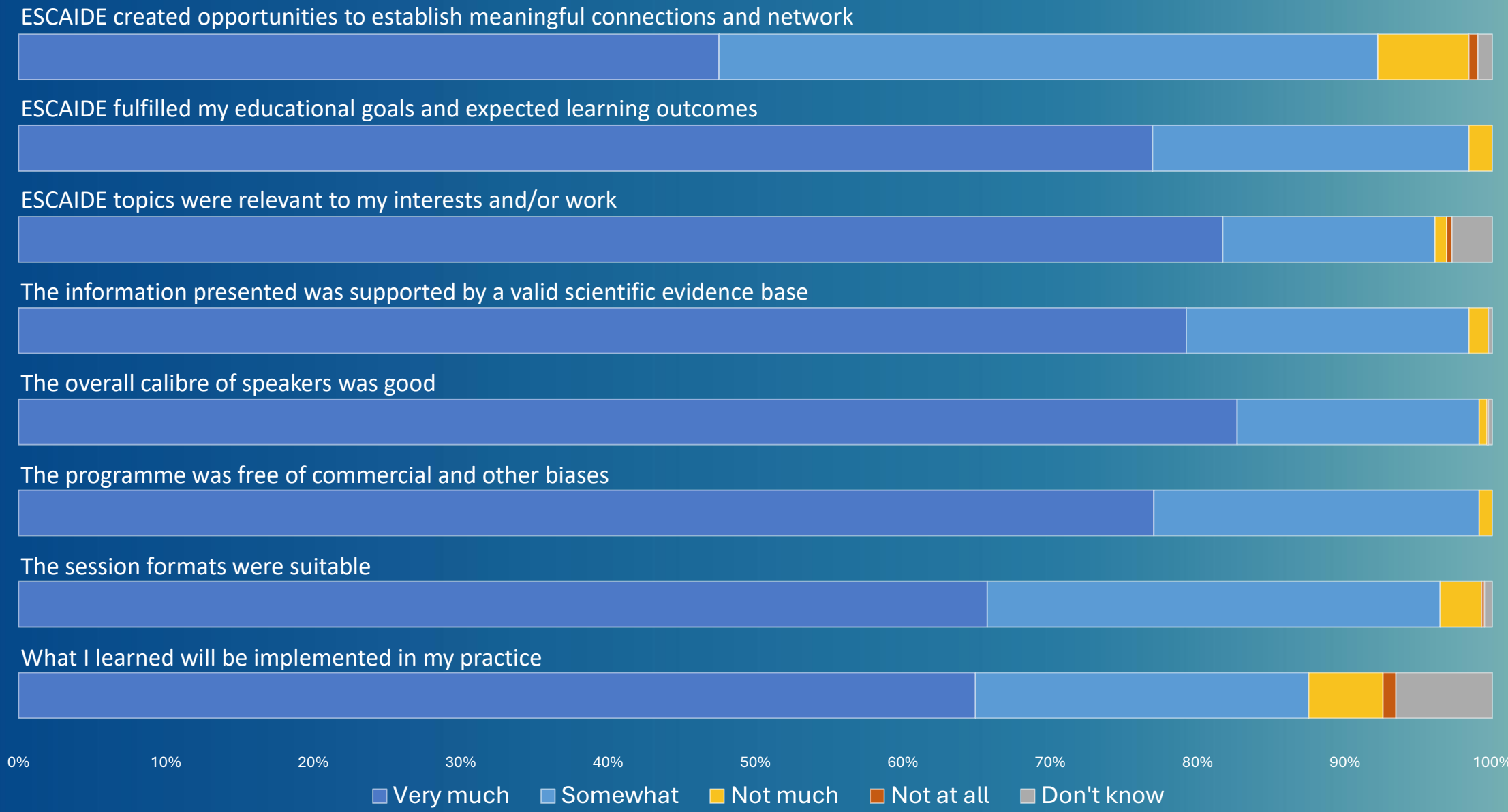
The quality of the organisation and logistical aspects



Feedback survey results

n=1132

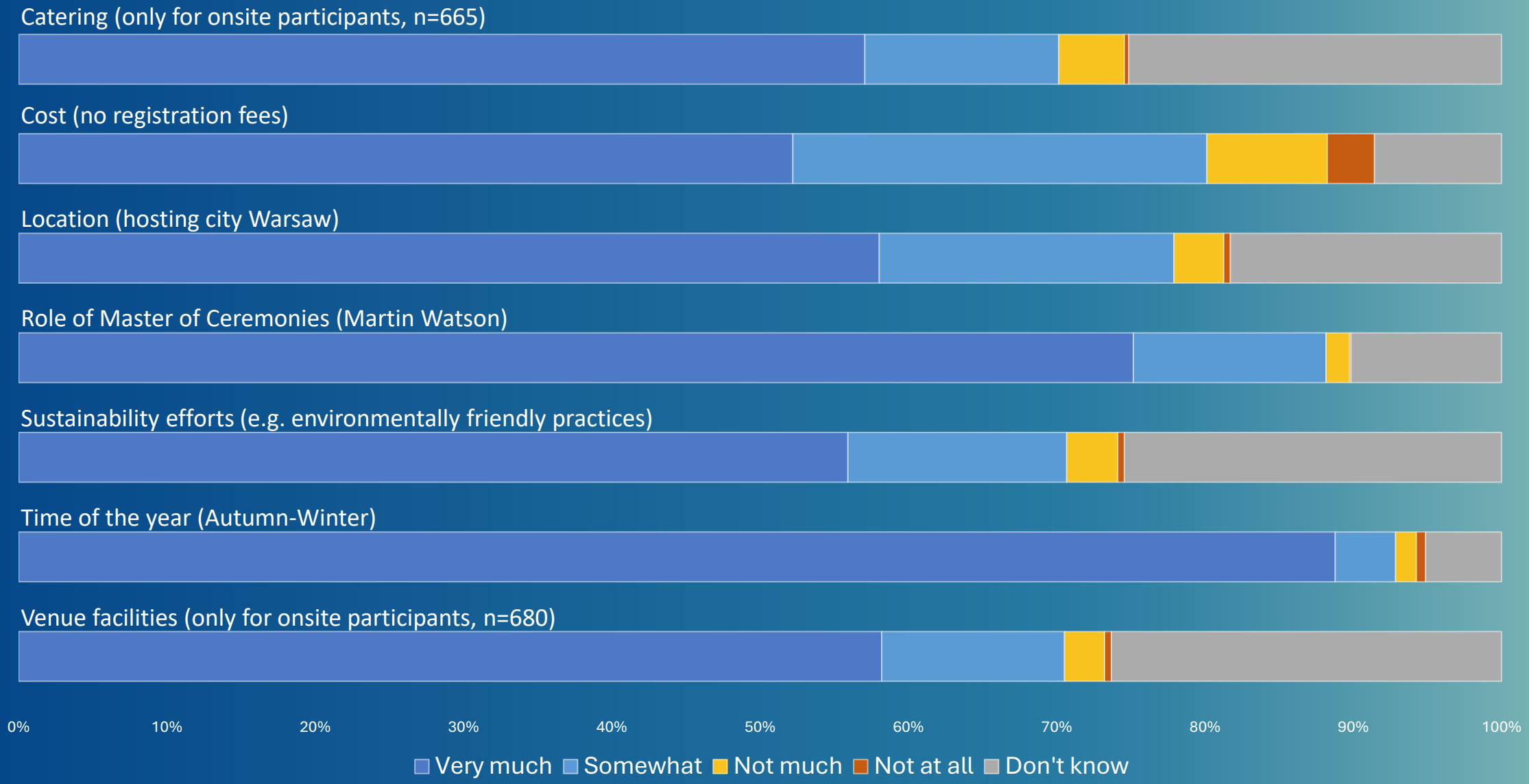
6. To what extent do you agree with the following statements about ESCAIDE 2025?



Feedback survey results

n=1132

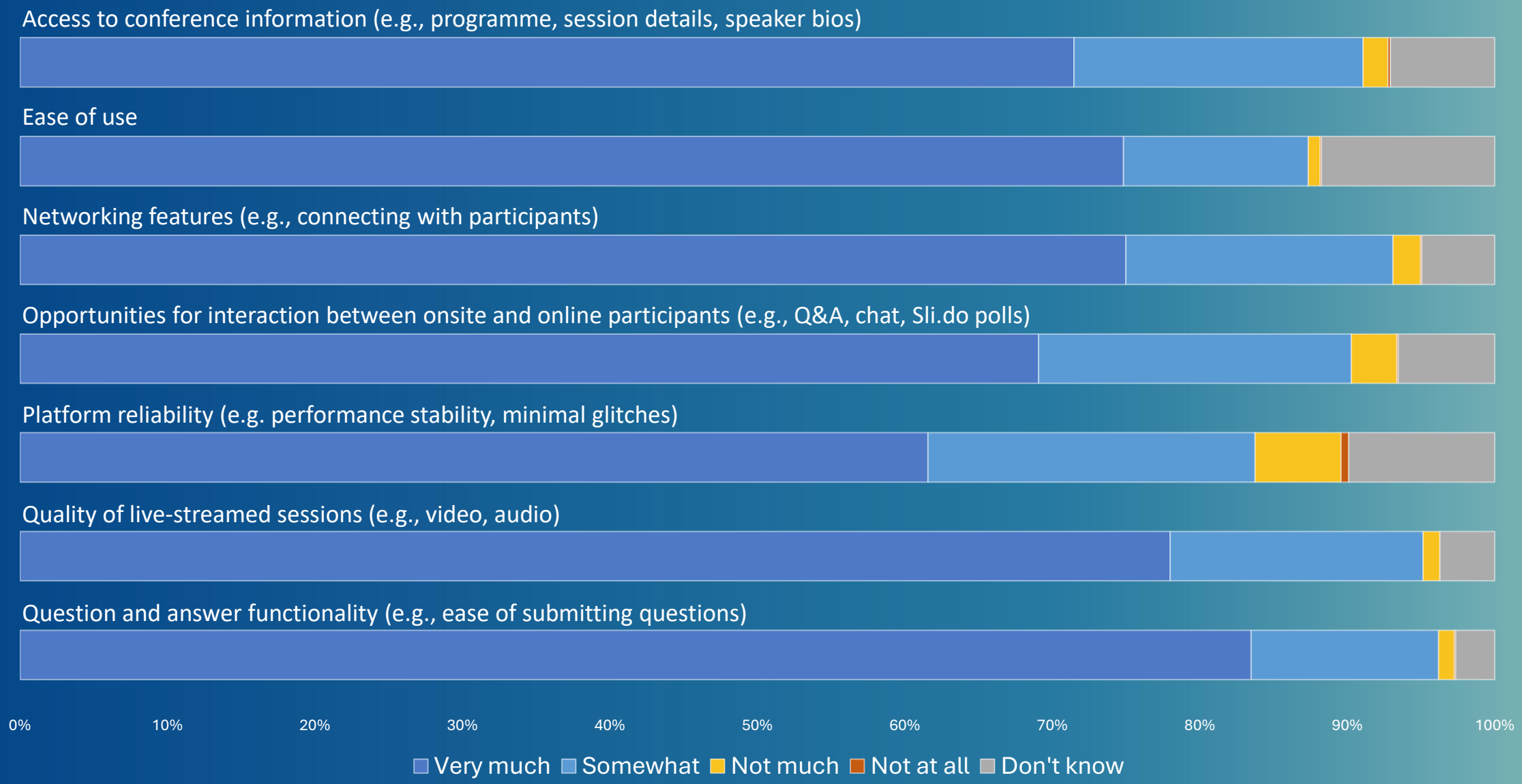
7.1. To what extent are you satisfied with the following organisational and logistical aspects of ESCAIDE 2025?



Feedback survey results

n=1132

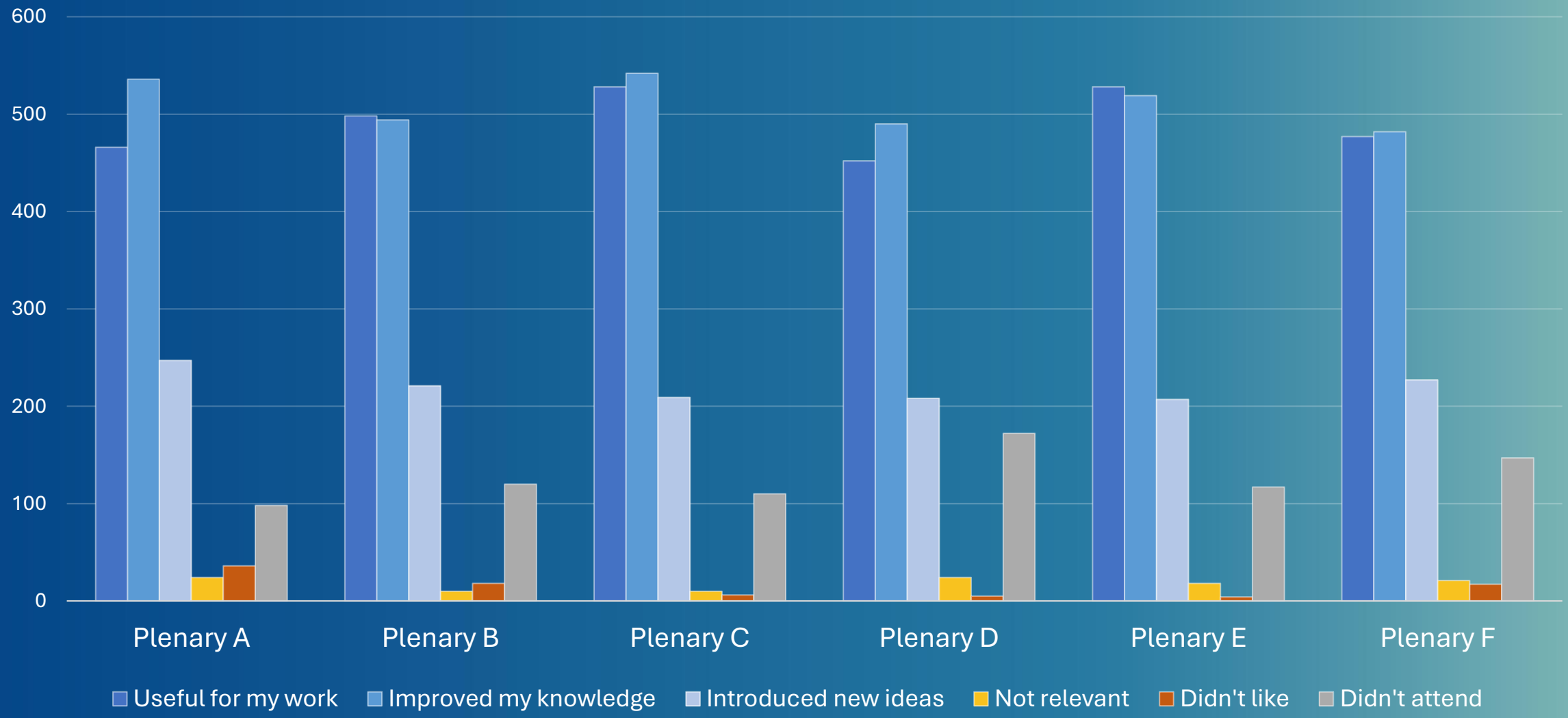
7.2. To what extent are you satisfied with the following aspects of the ESCAIDE 2025 online platform (hosted by *Swapcard*)?:



Feedback survey results

n=1132

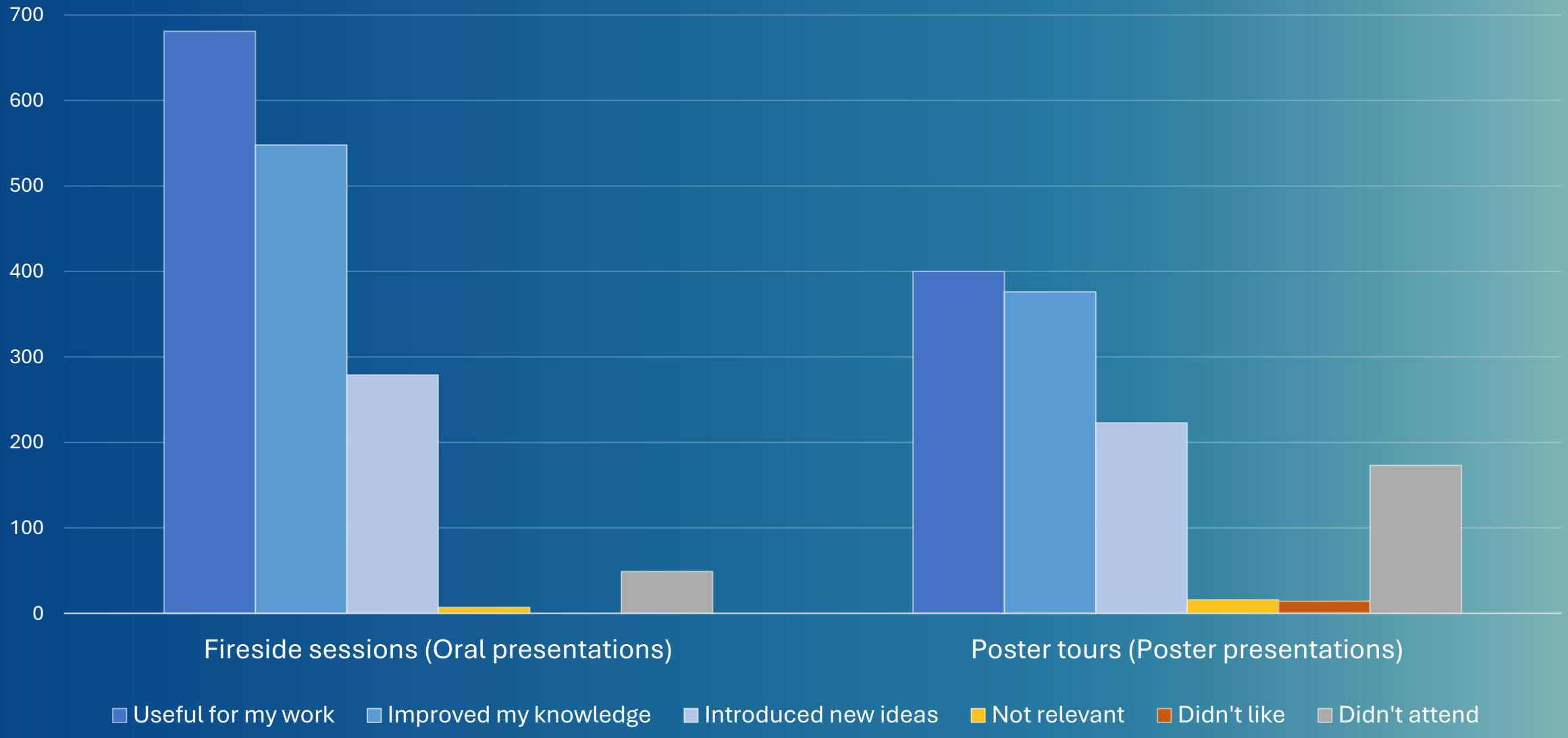
8. How would you best describe the following Plenary Sessions at ESCAIDE 2025? (select all that apply)



Feedback survey results

n=1132

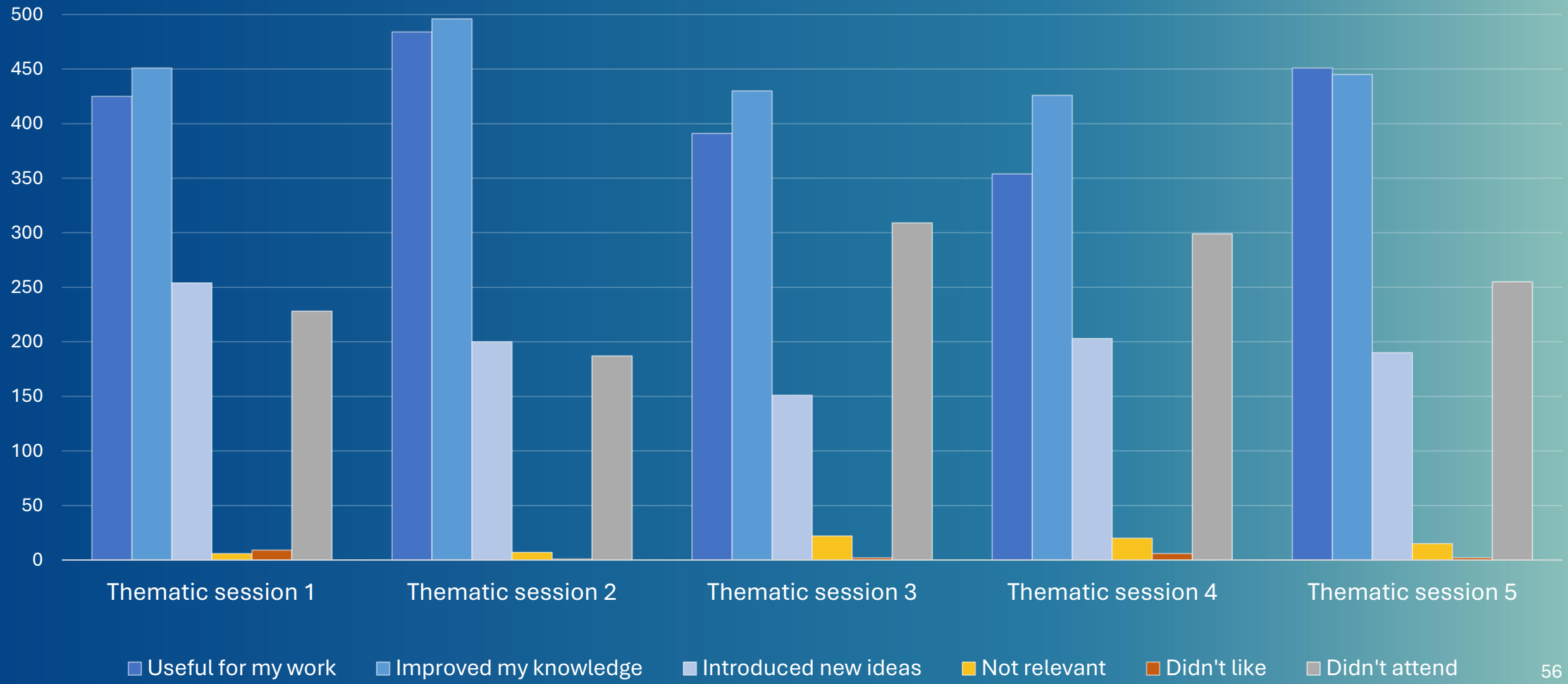
9. How would you best describe the abstract-led events at ESCAIDE 2025? (select all that apply)



Feedback survey results

n=1132

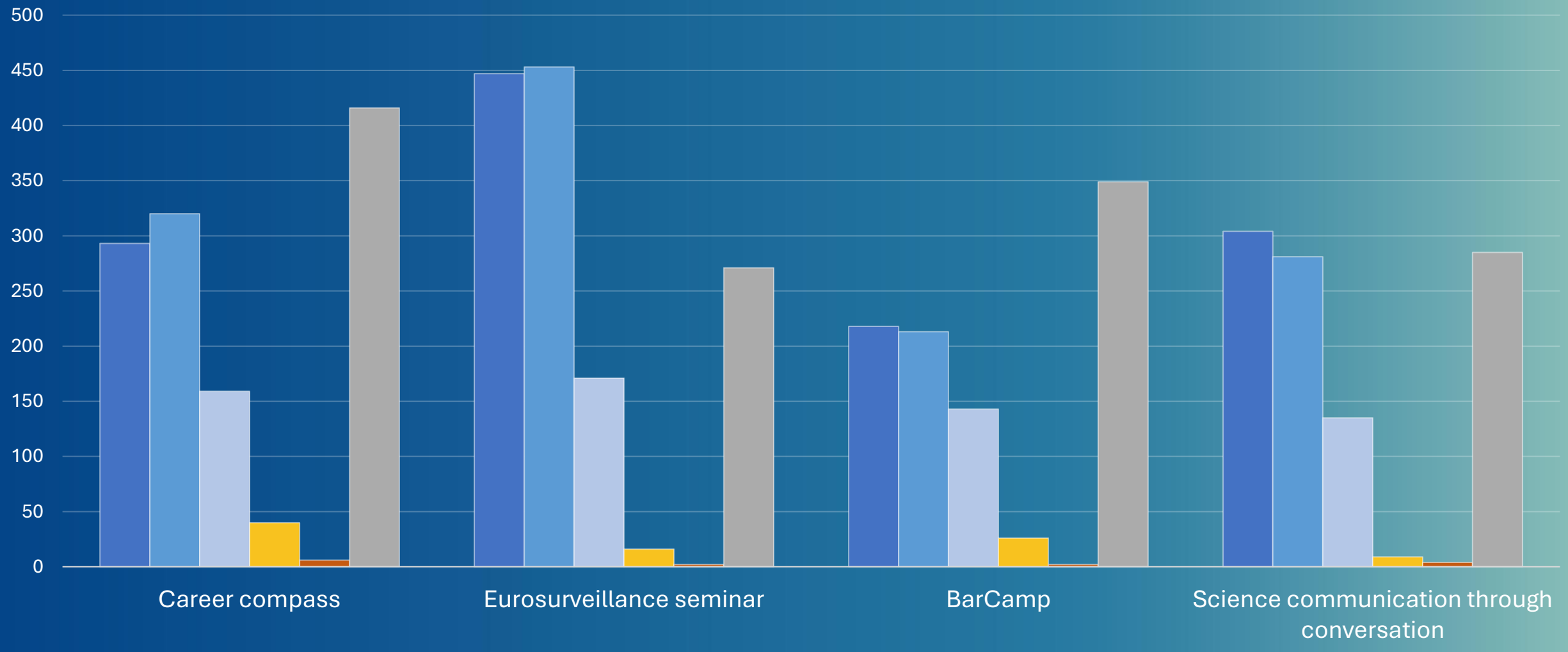
10. How would you best describe the following thematic sessions at ESCAIDE 2025? (select all that apply)



Feedback survey results

n=1132

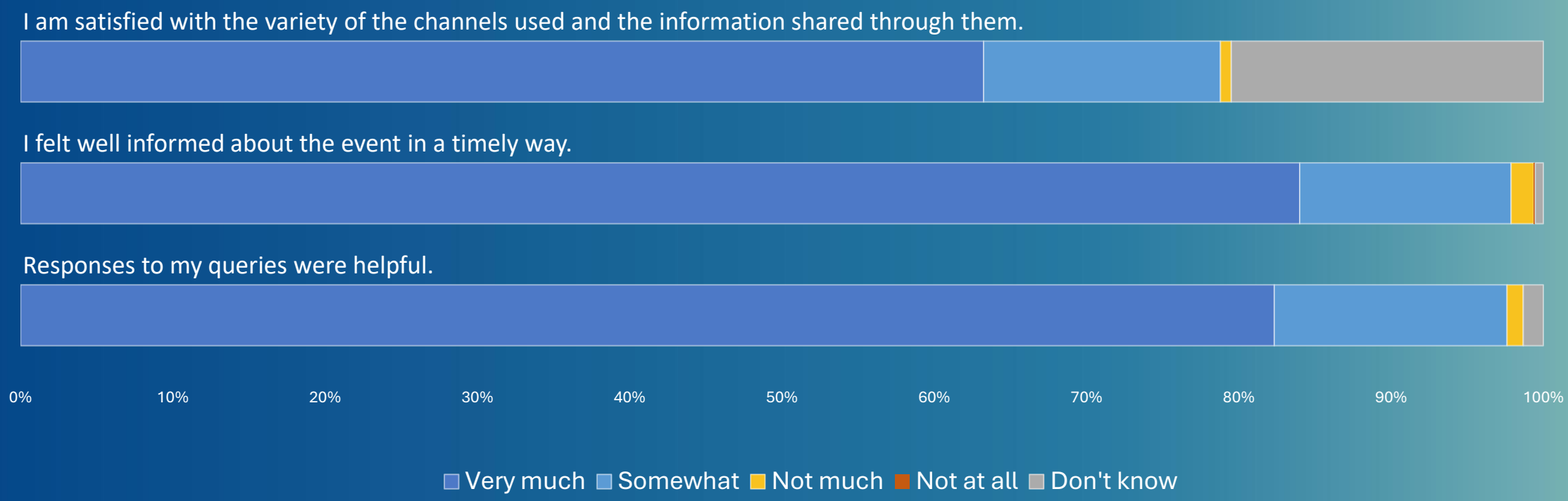
10. How would you best describe the following side-events at ESCAIDE 2025? (select all that apply)



Feedback survey results

n=1132

11. To what extent are you satisfied with how well informed you were about ESCAIDE 2025?

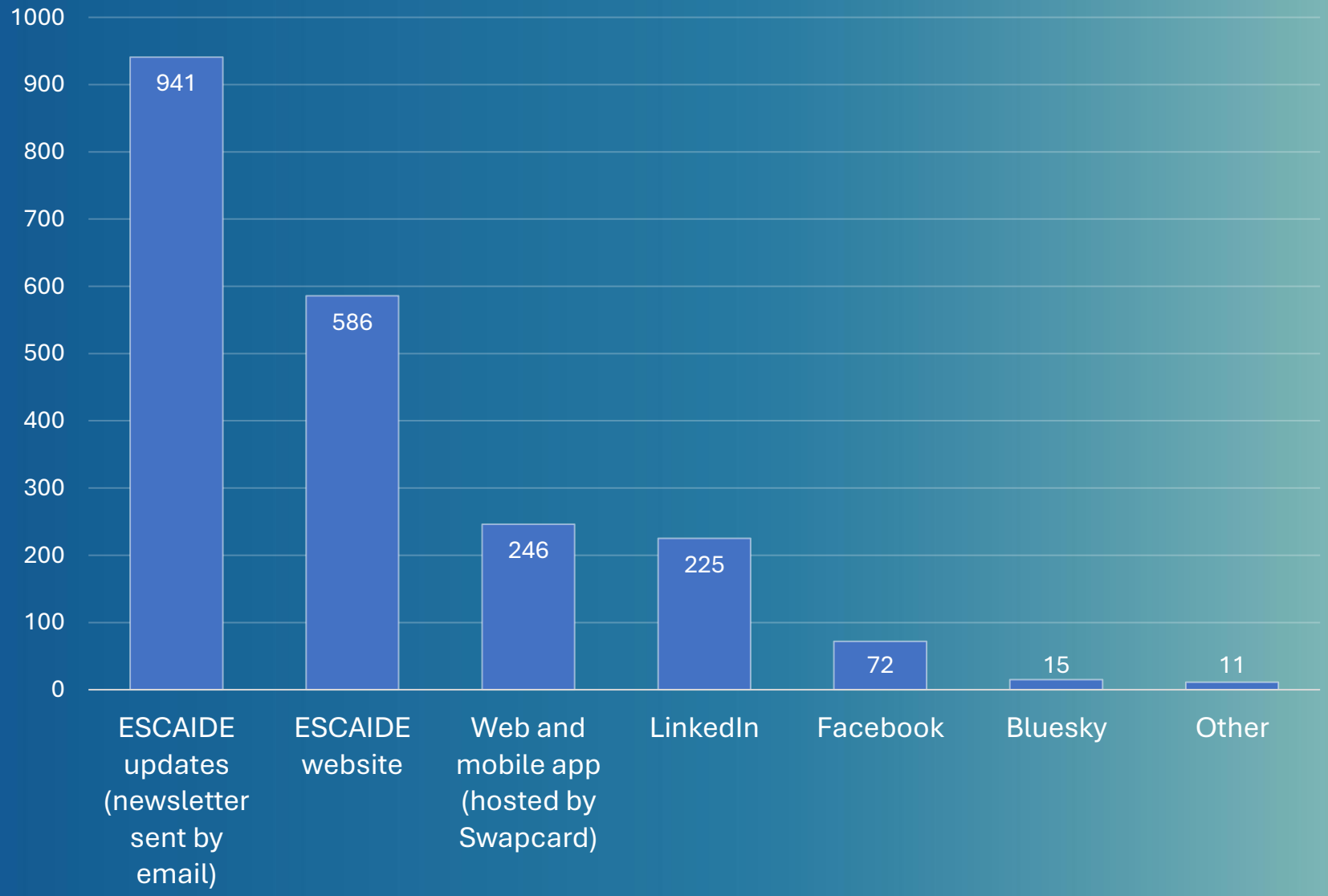


Feedback survey results

n=1132

12. How do you like to receive ESCAIDE related content?

The newsletter was the clear favourite among respondents, followed by the website. *Swapcard* and LinkedIn were chosen less often but still showed moderate use. In contrast, Facebook, Bluesky and other channels had very little interest, indicating they are less relevant for updates. This underscores the newsletter's importance as the main way participants prefer to receive ESCAIDE related content.



Feedback survey results

n=1132

13. What did you LIKE about ESCAIDE 2025, and would like us to continue with in future conferences? What did you DISLIKE about ESCAIDE 2025, and how could we improve it?

	LIKE	DISLIKE
Conference (general)	• Free admission • Hybrid format • Networking opportunities • High quality speakers and diversity of the sessions • Free of conflict of interest • Strong participation from early-career professionals • Inclusive, casual, and professional atmosphere	• Scheduling overlaps • Time of year • Few in-person spots • Need for more networking activities
Programme (general)	• Interdisciplinary fields and variety of topics • One Health approaches • The blend of deep methodological research with frontline outbreak cases • Evidence-based, relevant, and reflected current public health priorities, such as trust in science, leadership in public health, and social justice • Strong focus on practical, real-world applications	• Desire for more time for discussion • Packed programme, difficult to choose what to attend • Need for at least one hour of break during lunch without sessions • Same topic sessions happening at the same time • Some sessions were quite long • Suggestions to have sessions acknowledging the host country

Feedback survey results

n=1132

13. What did you LIKE about ESCAIDE 2025, and would like us to continue with in future conferences? What did you DISLIKE about ESCAIDE 2025, and how could we improve it?

	LIKE	DISLIKE
Plenaries	• Engaging and insightful speakers • Speakers from diverse background • Diversity of topics and perspectives • Provided concrete, high-level examples in practice • Interactive sessions • Smooth experience as speakers	• Some plenaries were too general without concrete examples • Need for more debate • Desire for more time for discussions, in particular with in-person audience
Fireside sessions	• Useful and interactive • Clear and useful guidelines • Helpful organisers showing the stage set-up and dynamic of the session • Supportive moderation • In-person interaction	• Desire for 2 moderators per session, to ease the management of questions from the app • Need for more time to discuss methodology aspects

Feedback survey results

n=1132

13. What did you LIKE about ESCAIDE 2025, and would like us to continue with in future conferences? What did you DISLIKE about ESCAIDE 2025, and how could we improve it?

	LIKE	DISLIKE
Poster tours	• Well-organised and structured sessions • Engaging and insightful presentations • Clear and useful guidelines • Supportive moderation • Smooth coordination and technical support	• Poster area was small and overcrowded at times, making it difficult to see the posters clearly and interact with presenters • Not possible to join the poster tours online • Early poster tours on Friday • Short allocated time for presentation • Limited time for interaction with presenters • Some sessions dominated by speakers from the same country or institute
Side events	• Diverse topics and insightful discussions • Preconference workshops • Supportive and useful moderation	• Side sessions during the lunch break • Some side events were not well-promoted • Desire to include again the refresh and recharge sessions

Feedback survey results

n=1132

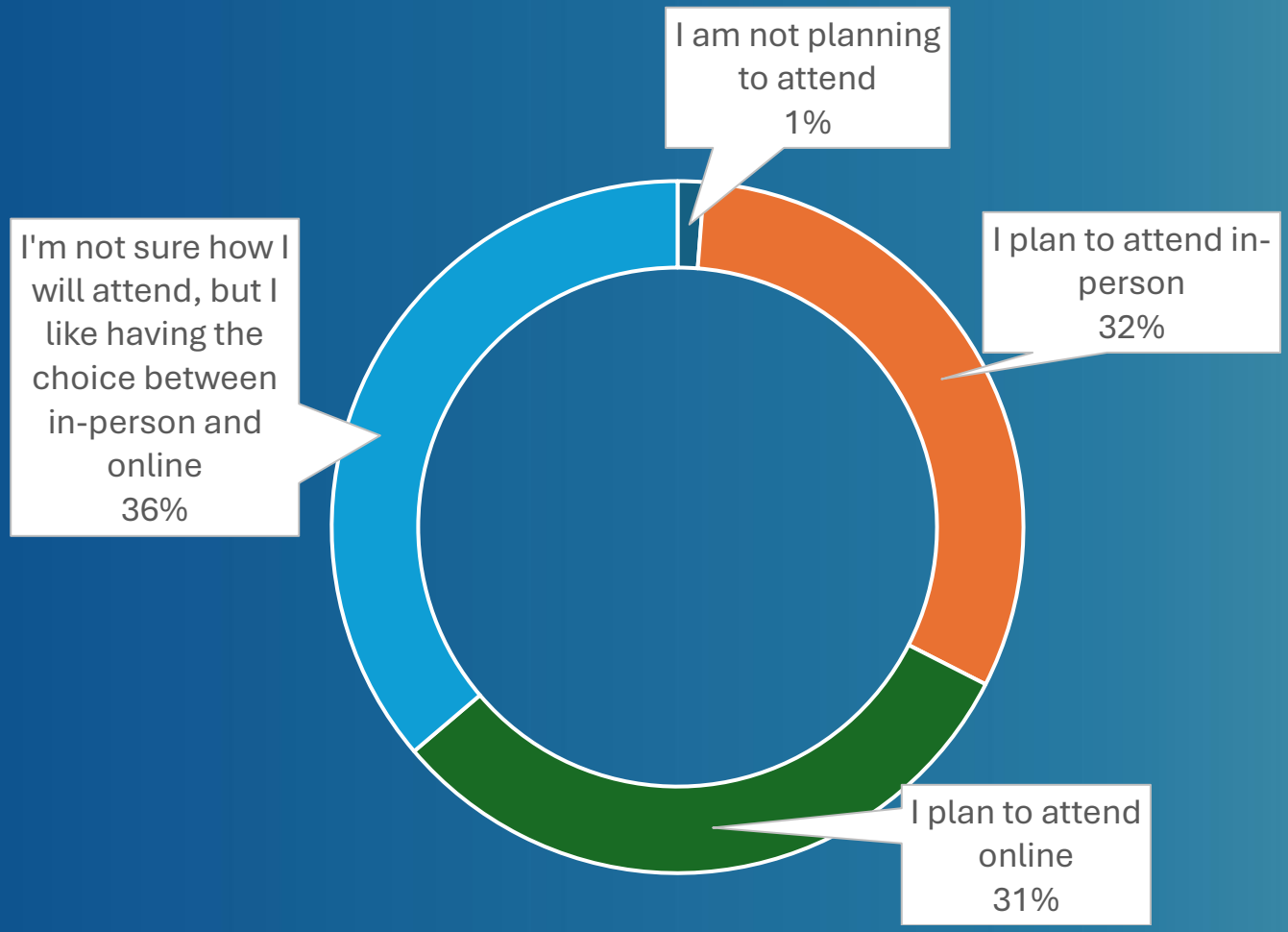
13. What did you LIKE about ESCAIDE 2025, and would like us to continue with in future conferences? What did you DISLIKE about ESCAIDE 2025, and how could we improve it?

	LIKE	DISLIKE
Hybrid format	• Accessibility of recordings • Quality of online sessions • Appreciated for inclusivity and environmental benefits • Ease of remote participation	• Desire for more online networking opportunities • Some sessions and content not available to online participants • Some technical glitches in the online stream • Many online participants would have liked to attend in person, but couldn't due to limited spots • Desire to have more colleagues from the host country involved
App	• User-friendly and intuitive • Facilitated hybrid format • Availability of session recordings • Subtitles in the online sessions • Ease of asking questions	• Questions feature difficult to follow for moderators • Need to improve the networking feature • There was a slightly delay in the streaming sessions, which may have affected in the online interaction • Switching between sessions was a bit fragmented • Suggestion to allow downloading PowerPoint presentations and videos
Catering and venue	• Catering with variety of choice with options for different dietary requirements • Master of Ceremony was helpful and useful • Useful networking spaces • Venue was easy to navigate and in a walking distance • The assisting personnel were kind and helpful throughout	• Secondary auditoriums weren't very big • Missing a wall or backdrop to take group pictures • Need for a space to rest and sit down in quietness • Suggestions to offer a planetary health diet

Feedback survey results

n=1132

14. ESCAIDE 2026 will take place in Stockholm, 18-20 November. Please indicate how you are planning to attend ESCAIDE 2026.



Feedback survey results

Conclusions (Overall)

Respondents were asked about their agreement with a set of statements related with the conference. The satisfaction was evaluated by selecting 'extremely', 'very much', 'somewhat', 'not much' or 'not at all'. The quality of the conference organisation and programme was evaluated according to 'very good' 'good', 'fair', and 'poor' and the topics, content, networking, and organisational aspects with 'very much', 'somewhat', 'not much', and 'not at all'.	
Satisfaction	There were positive results: 95.7% of respondents were 'extremely' or 'very much' satisfied with the conference. The overall results of the survey showed that the respondents were highly satisfied with all aspects indicated.
Quality	97.8% of respondents considered that the quality of the conference programme and sessions was 'very good' or 'good' and 98.2% evaluated the quality of the organisation and logistical aspects as 'very good' or 'good'.
Topics, content and networking	A very large majority of respondents 'very much' or 'somewhat' agreed that ESCAIDE topics were topics were relevant to their work (99.1%), that the overall calibre of speakers was good (98.4%), that the event fulfilled their educational goals (96.5%), that what they learned would be implemented in their practice (92.2%), that the information presented was supported by a valid scientific evidence base (99.1%), that ESCAIDE created opportunities to establish meaningful connections and network (87.5%), that the session formats were suitable (98.4%), and that the programme was free of commercial and other biases (96.1%).
Organisational aspects	There were very positive results overall, high number of respondents were either 'very much' or 'somewhat' satisfied with most of the organisational aspects of the conference, such as the role of the Master of Ceremonies (88.9%), the fact that no registration fees were collected (92.8%), the sustainability efforts (77.9%), and the time of the year (80.1%). The venue, catering and the hosting city scored slightly lower than the other criteria (70.1%, 70.5%, and 70.7%, respectively).
Platform	The online platform (Swapcard) was rated positively by the respondents with 'very much' or somewhat' in terms of access to conference information (96.2%), ease of use (95.1%), platform reliability (93.1%), questions functionality (91;1%), opportunities for interaction between onsite and online participants (90.3%), and the quality of live-streamed sessions (87.4%). The networking features in the platform scored slightly lower, with 83.7% of respondents.

Feedback survey results

Conclusions (Overall)

To assess the quality of the sessions, participants could select various aspects to best describe different events at ESCAIDE: 'improved my knowledge', 'useful for my work', 'introduced new ideas', 'not relevant', 'didn't like', or 'didn't attend'.	
Plenary sessions	There were positive results overall. Most respondents rated the plenary sessions highly in terms of improving their knowledge and being useful for their work. The main quality the participants indicated was 'improved my knowledge' (in particular for Plenaries A and C), followed by 'useful for my work' (especially for Plenary C and E), and 'introduced new ideas' (especially in Plenary A). Only 1.3% of respondents disliked one of the plenaries or did not find them relevant to their work.
Abstract sessions	There were very positive results overall. Most respondents rated the abstract-led sessions highly in terms of improving their knowledge and being useful for their work. Only 0.8% of respondents either disliked these sessions or did not find them relevant to their work.
Side-events	There were very positive results overall, most respondents rated the side-events highly in terms of improving their knowledge and being useful for their work. Only 1.0% of respondents either disliked these sessions or did not find them relevant to their work.

Feedback survey results

Conclusions (Overall)

The respondents were asked about their agreement with a set of statements related with the conference.	
Communication	97.6% respondents expressed that they felt 'very much' or 'somewhat' well informed about the event in a timely way. The favourite ways to receive the content were through the newsletter sent by email, the ESCAIDE website and the web and mobile app hosted by *Swapcard*.
ESCAIDE 2026	When asked about their plans to attend ESCAIDE in 2025, 36.2% of respondents said they were 'not sure' how they will attend, but they 'like having the choice between in-person and online'. 31.3% responded that they plan to attend in person and 31.3% plan to participate only online. Only 1.2% of respondents indicated they are not planning to attend ESCAIDE 2025.
Overall results	The majority of respondents expressed extreme satisfaction with the event's topics and content, finding the sessions relevant and useful. The programme was particularly praised for quality and variety, along with the appreciated policy of free attendance. Additionally, the web and mobile app, and the availability of session recordings were highly valued for its convenience. Overall, positive feedback outweighed any negative responses, with many attendees expressing willingness to participate in ESCAIDE 2026. Constructive feedback and suggestions for improvement were taken note of, and will be considered for implementation in future editions of the conference.

Conclusions

Conclusions

ESCAIDE 2025 successfully brought people together through its hybrid format, delivering the conference experience to a global audience from 126 countries. With 2 908 active participants, three quarters of which attended the conference remotely, the online option once again proved its value in overcoming barriers like cost and travel.

The 3-day programme covered a wide range of topics related to infectious disease prevention and control, bringing together over 300 speakers and moderators spread across 64 sessions, including plenary sessions, fireside sessions, poster tours and side events.

Feedback from the post-conference survey was highly positive, with 95.7% of respondents expressing satisfaction with the event and highlighting the quality and variety of the programme and sessions, and the overall organisation. A few areas for improvement were also identified, including the need for more onsite networking opportunities and a less packed programme, as some participants suggested avoiding side sessions during the lunch break. As the previous year, the conference only offered onsite poster presentations, and some online attendees mentioned that they would appreciate the possibility of accessing these presentations as well.

The use of *Swapcard* as the conference online platform was generally well-received for its ease of use, access to the conference information, and for allowing hybrid interactions between speakers and participants, but a few technical features can still be fine-tuned to improve the user experience. As previous years, we saw strong engagement throughout the event, especially in the session chats, where participants contributed lively and thoughtful discussions.

Organising ESCAIDE is a team effort based on collaboration. Behind the scenes, we built on past learnings, planned carefully, and ensured smooth technical execution to deliver a seamless experience for both online and onsite audiences.

ESCAIDE continues to be a unique opportunity for public health professionals to share knowledge, connect with peers, and build lasting collaborations. As we continue to grow and evolve, we remain committed to providing a highly-valued conference for exchange, networking and dissemination of the work of the public health community, while keeping these core values at the heart of the conference.

A look back on ESCAIDE 2025

Read the Highlights Report, with summaries of the content presented each day

Visit the ESCAIDE 2025 archive page to see photos, session content, abstract book, etc.

Access ESCAIDE content available on ESCAIDE2025 web and mobile apps (only for registered participants, until end of March 2026)

Re-watch ESCAIDE sessions on YouTube

Stay tuned for 2026

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Thank you for your participation in ESCAIDE 2025!

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