

Section 9: Table 4.3. Long-term review

Top 10 international meeting countries and cities in 1859-2008

This table lists the 9 to 10 countries and cities with the greatest number of meetings of type A for each 25-year period from 1859 to 2008.

Meetings counted under the heading “A” are “Meetings of international organizations” and meet all the following criteria:

- meetings organized or sponsored by “international organizations”, i.e. international non-governmental organizations (INGOs) and intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) that are included in the UIA’s *Yearbook of International Organizations* (see the Introduction “What is an ‘international organization’”) and whose details are subject to systematic collection and updates on an annual basis by the UIA
- with at least 50 participants, or number of participants unknown

Note: For this table the editors have chosen to group defunct countries under their current names in cases where exactly the same territory is covered. In practical terms for this edition, this affects only Germany. Cities, while being listed under the country in which they are currently located, have been grouped and totalled by city, regardless of any changes in country name. Equally, cities with names known by various spellings have been grouped and totalled. For example, Prague is listed as “Prague, Czech Rep”, regardless of the year. Cities so treated are indicated by a “*” after the name.

Caveat: When comparing consecutive years in flux, it should be remembered that both years’ totals can be expected to change over time, the latest slightly more rapidly than the older. For the years presented here, the data can be assumed to be now reasonably stable.

Data for the years prior to 1983 require special mention. The UIA meetings database – the source of this statistics report and of the *International Congress Calendar* – contains, with few exceptions, only information since 1983, the year in which the UIA installed its own computerized data storage system. Most data in this report for the years prior to 1983 were collected not by the rigorous collection methods under which the *International Congress Calendar* operates, but by the more flexible (insofar as recording meeting activity is concerned) standards of the *Yearbook of International Organizations*. The *Yearbook* presents a general picture of an organization and its activities (including its events) while the *Calendar* focuses exclusively on documenting events. It should therefore not be assumed that the data for the years prior to 1983, in most cases extracted from the *Yearbook* and not from the *Calendar*, give a complete history of the meetings of all organizations and associations. The volume of data available for analysis in this section is, however, sufficient to make it indicative.

Country	1859-1883	Country	1884-1908	Country	1909-1933
France	22	France	110	France	110
Belgium	14	Belgium	65	UK	101
Italy	12	UK	53	Belgium	90
Switzerland	11	Germany	52	Netherlands	73
UK	11	Switzerland	44	USA	69
Germany	10	Italy	37	Switzerland	61
Austria	5	USA	26	Italy	60
Netherlands	4	Austria	24	Germany	57
USA	3	Netherlands	19	Austria	36
		Hungary	11	Spain	34
City	1859-1883	City	1884-1908	City	1909-1933
Paris, France	18	Paris, France	90	Paris, France	95
Brussels, Belgium	9	Brussels, Belgium	43	London, UK	71
London, UK	7	London, UK	40	Brussels, Belgium	65
Milan, Italy	5	Vienna, Austria	24	The Hague, Netherlands	38
Vienna, Austria	5	Rome, Italy	21	Rome, Italy	36
Berne, Switzerland (*)	4	Berlin, Germany (*)	20	Vienna, Austria	33
Geneva, Switzerland	4	Geneva, Switzerland	13	Stockholm, Sweden	29
Liège, Belgium	3	Budapest, Hungary	11	Berlin, Germany (*)	28
St Petersburg, Russia (*)	3	The Hague, Netherlands	11	Amsterdam, Netherlands	26
Zurich, Switzerland	3	Antwerp, Belgium	9	Geneva, Switzerland	22
Country	1934-1958	Country	1959-1983	Country	1984-2008
France	339	USA	2411	USA	26777
UK	274	France	1965	France	18256
Italy	250	UK	1782	UK	13165
Belgium	231	Germany FR	1737	Italy	11128
Switzerland	216	Italy	1340	Germany	10744
USA	199	Switzerland	1094	Belgium	9017
Netherlands	176	Netherlands	925	Spain	8459
Germany FR	149	Belgium	859	Switzerland	8392
Sweden	99	Austria	840	Netherlands	8329
Denmark	87	Spain	776	Austria	6656
City	1934-1958	City	1959-1983	City	1984-2008
Paris, France	242	Paris, France	838	Paris, France	7636
Brussels, Belgium	167	London, UK	753	Brussels, Belgium	6196
London, UK	164	Vienna, Austria	529	Vienna, Austria	4620
Rome, Italy	114	Brussels, Belgium	482	Geneva, Switzerland	4472
Copenhagen, Denmark	75	Tokyo, Japan	392	London, UK	4382
Stockholm, Sweden	75	Rome, Italy	387	Singapore, Singapore	3030
Amsterdam, Netherlands	66	Copenhagen, Denmark	360	Rome, Italy	2672
Vienna, Austria	62	Madrid, Spain	350	Amsterdam, Netherlands	2534
The Hague, Netherlands	61	Stockholm, Sweden	350	Copenhagen, Denmark	2508
Zurich, Switzerland	58	Amsterdam, Netherlands	320	Washington DC, USA	2508