

Section 9: Table 4.3. Long-term review

Top 10 international meeting countries and cities in 1856-2005

This table lists the 10 countries and the 9 or 10 cities with the greatest number of meetings of type A for each 25-year period from 1856-2005.

Meetings counted under the heading “A” are “Meetings of international organizations”:

- meetings organized or sponsored by “international organizations”, i.e. non-governmental organizations (NGOs) 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

and

- 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: “Germany” covers pre-1945 Germany, the German Democratic Republic and the German Federal Republic of 1945-1989, and post-1989 Germany. Likewise, 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	1856-1880	Country	1881-1905	Country	1906-1930
France	15	France	97	UK	99
Switzerland	9	Belgium	62	France	94
Belgium	8	Germany	36	Belgium	85
Italy	7	Switzerland	34	Switzerland	62
Germany	6	UK	33	Netherlands	60
UK	6	Italy	25	Italy	56
Austria	5	USA	20	Germany	55
Netherlands	3	Austria	17	USA	50
Russia	3	Netherlands	14	Austria	33
Sweden	2	Hungary	9	Sweden	31

City	1856-1880	City	1881-1905	City	1906-1930
Paris, France	13	Paris, France	78	Paris, France	80
Brussels, Belgium	6	Brussels, Belgium	39	London, UK	72
Vienna, Austria	5	London, UK	24	Brussels, Belgium	61
Berne, Switzerland	3	Vienna, Austria	17	The Hague, Netherlands	34
Geneva, Switzerland	3	Rome, Italy	13	Rome, Italy	33
London, UK	3	Liège, Belgium	12	Berlin, Germany (*)	32
Milan, Italy	3	Berlin, Germany (*)	11	Vienna, Austria	31
St Petersburg, Russia	3	Antwerp, Belgium	9	Stockholm, Sweden	27
Zurich, Switzerland	3	Budapest, Hungary	9	Geneva, Switzerland	25
				Amsterdam, Netherlands	20

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<u>Country</u>	<u>1931-1955</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>1956-1980</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>1981-2005</u>
France	285	USA	1595	USA	22827
UK	215	France	1397	France	16205
Italy	175	Germany FR	1329	UK	11778
Switzerland	174	UK	1271	Italy	9555
Belgium	163	Italy	1033	Germany	8628
Netherlands	140	Switzerland	832	Belgium	7922
USA	135	Netherlands	682	Switzerland	7450
Sweden	71	Belgium	653	Spain	7042
Denmark	64	Austria	647	Netherlands	7031
Germany FR	63	Spain	572	Austria	5572
<u>City</u>	<u>1931-1955</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>1956-1980</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>1981-2005</u>
Paris, France	212	Paris, France	631	Paris, France	6642
London, UK	135	London, UK	596	Brussels, Belgium	5345
Brussels, Belgium	112	Vienna, Austria	419	London, UK	3972
Rome, Italy	90	Brussels, Belgium	387	Geneva, Switzerland	3908
Amsterdam, Netherlands	55	Rome, Italy	301	Vienna, Austria	3780
Copenhagen, Denmark	55	Tokyo, Japan	272	Strasbourg, France	2393
Stockholm, Sweden	50	Stockholm, Sweden	271	Rome, Italy	2344
The Hague, Netherlands	49	Copenhagen, Denmark	265	Washington DC, USA	2256
Zurich, Switzerland	46	Madrid, Spain	259	Copenhagen, Denmark	2235
Vienna, Austria	38	Munich, Germany (*)	244	Amsterdam, Netherlands	2204