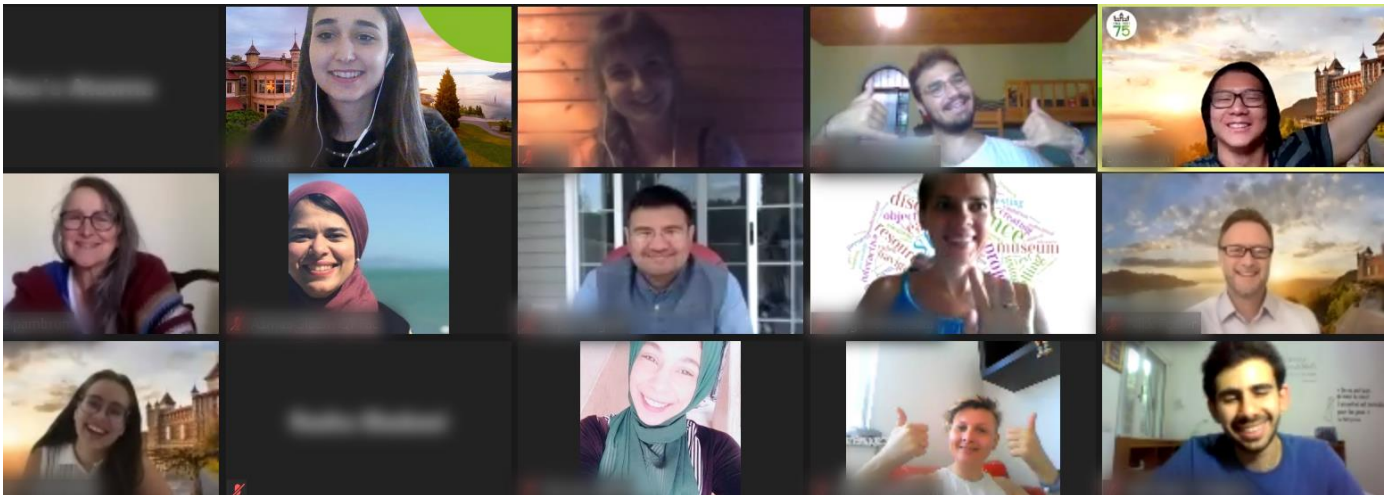


# Creative Leadership Report

Living Your Possibilities – From Healing to Action

23-29 July 2022

Online



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## What is Creative Leadership?

Creative Leadership aims to be an inclusive space where diverse participants from around the globe can come together and reconceptualize leadership. The 2022 conference took people on a journey of personal and collective growth, using arts, story-sharing, workshops and dialogue groups. These tools helped participants unlock their own leadership potential.

The theme of 'Living your Possibilities: From Healing to Action' was a response to global events, in times of uncertainty and rapid change. To take action and create change, we must begin by reconnecting with our inner voice and finding our own healing process. The conference was based on the idea that healing is a continuous process that requires conscious effort and deliberate action in our day-to-day lives.

We began each day with time for individual reflection and growth. Activities then focused on fostering a culture of solidarity and collective healing through compassion, awareness and overcoming individualism. Finally, we explored creative methods to reignite participants' energy for taking personal and collective action.

Now more than ever, conscious leadership and collective action are required. This was an opportunity to empower global voices to come together to find hope and healing for themselves and their communities.

### Our Vision

*To inspire regenerative change beginning in the self by encouraging authentic transformation. To enable the younger generation to become conscious leaders in their communities via the tools of story-sharing and dialogue.*

### **Who was this conference for?**

- Anyone who yearns to create change in the world and within themselves
- Anyone who wants to explore a personal and collective healing journey while finding creative ways to take action
- Anyone who wants to explore self-development and growth as essential tools for action
- Anyone who wishes to connect with an international network of people so as to exchange ideas on how to achieve similar objectives from different perspectives

### **What did participants gain from the CL Conference?**

- They took part in a transformative journey which reimagined leadership through restorative healing, introspection and external inspiration.
- They used dialogue, listening, reflection and the arts as tools for gathering knowledge.
- They joined a network of changemakers working on redefining leadership and putting theory into practice.
- They gained applicable skills and connections which embody the values of Creative Leadership.
- They were given a certificate of participation based on sessions attended and were given access to material used.

## The Journey

Creative Leadership 2022 guided participants on a six-day journey from healing to action. The conference took place online from 23 to 29 July – with a break day in between – and brought together around 194 participants in over 50 countries to engage in meaningful dialogue, listen to inspirational stories from like-minded changemakers, and gain tools from experienced speakers. At the heart of it all, the Creative Leadership conference offered space for inner reflection and network building.

## The Team

The inspiration for the Creative Leadership conference came from more than 250 young changemakers of 98 nationalities who have taken part in the Caux Peace and Leadership Programme (CPLP). The conference was organized by an international team of 10, supported by 16 facilitators and six others, as well as the Caux Peace and Leadership Programme team, the Caux Forum team and the IofC Switzerland team.



Creative Leadership 2022							
July 2022 CEST (UCT +2)	Saturday 23	Sunday 24	Monday 25	Tuesday 26	Wednesday 27	Thursday 28	Friday 29
15:00-15:30	Opening session	Quiet time - Active	Quiet time	Rest Day	Quiet time - Active	Quiet time	Quiet time
15:30-16:00	Meeting our Dialogue Groups	Dialogue Groups	Webinar No.1 Q & A		Dialogue Groups	Webinar No.2 Q & A	Leaving our Dialogue Groups
16:00-16:30							
16:30-17:00							
17:00-17:30							
17:30-18:00							
18:00-18:30	Workshop	Human Library	Workshop		Human Library	Workshop	Closing session
18:30-19:00							
19:00-19:30	Tea time & Meet the speakers	Tea time & Meet the speakers	Tea time & Meet the speakers		Tea time & Meet the speakers	Tea time & Meet the speakers	Closing tea time
19:30-20:00							

## The Programme

Creative Leadership uses a wide range of activities to take people on the journey through healing to action. The centrepiece is dialogue groups, which bring participants together to discuss and share their different perspectives. This places participants at the centre, rather than requiring them to be passive listeners. These encounters are deepened through the time-honoured lofC practice of quiet time, offering space and time to reflect and process. Webinars and workshops focus on issues concerning the participants, with speakers sharing their own experiences. Workshops are more interactive, with more time for questions and answers. In the human library people share highly moving personal stories, as a bridge to understanding. Finally, tea time offers a chance to chat informally and get to know other conference participants.

The sessions and individual speakers are listed below in more detail.

Watch the opening session here: [Creative Leadership 2022 - Opening Session](#)

## Dialogue Groups

The dialogue groups focused on exploring a four-part journey, taking people from healing the wounds of the past, personal or collective, and moving towards taking action in the future to prevent further suffering. This involved engaging with the inner journey and then taking outward into daily life. On the first day participants were divided into small facilitated discussion groups, which they stayed with for all four sessions.

**Journey of conscious healing** – The first dialogue group focused on creating the space for the journey of conscious healing.

**Culture of solidarity** – The second dialogue group allowed participants to engage with the connection between solidarity and healing, and discuss how to create a sense of healing.

**Igniting action** – The third dialogue group focused on story-telling and on using imagination and experiences to ignite action through healing and solidarity.

**Reflection** – The final dialogue group offered the chance to reflect on previous discussions and set future intentions.

The facilitators of each group had the freedom to shape their group according to their own facilitation style. This meant that every group tailored its own unique space and built its own special connection of trust.

## Human Libraries

A space for story-sharing. Participants and speakers connected and grew through listening to different experiences.

*Sunday 25 July – Journey of Conscious Healing*

### Dhruti Rathod – India



An award-winning director and a brown woman, who also identifies as gender-neutral, Dhruti Rathod was born and raised in India.

A media and communications graduate, she is a filmmaker specializing in documentary storytelling. Dhruti started her full-time documentary filmmaking journey after realizing the impact a personal story leaves on oneself and how cinema plays an imperative role in shaping our society. Having studied a wide array of subjects that includes sociology, psychology, art, music, theatre, gender, marketing, advertising, and management amongst many others, she is well-equipped to be critical of her work and that of others around. She is passionate about telling

stories that question stereotypes and offer narratives of people who are usually ignored by society.

### Jake Jay-Lewin - United Kingdom



Jake Jay-Lewin grew up in the Findhorn Ecovillage and Spiritual Community, Scotland, and has been active in the Ecovillage movement since 2013. He co-developed the youth arm of the Global Ecovillage Network (GEN), NextGEN, and was recently elected to GEN-Europe's Council and Board of Trustees. He draws on his experiences of visiting over 50 intentional community or Ecovillage projects worldwide, working in the Calais Refugee camp and a decade of training with various governance, nature, and trauma-informed methods in his work as a trainer, coach and facilitator. This experience is used to empower both individuals and organizations toward regenerative culture. His passion is supporting people in working consciously with their feelings to evolve, transform, connect,

and create.



## Rainer Gude - USA / Switzerland



Rainer Gude was on sabbatical and had just finished a 1100 km walk from Switzerland to Rome. From facilitator, moderator, convenor, public speaker and manager, his many roles all start with a belief in the importance of being the change you want to see in the world. Most recently he was the Executive Coordinator of the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform and Co-Director General of Initiatives of Change (IofC) Switzerland where he oversaw Strategic Partnerships, Programmes and External Relations and helped run the Caux Forum. Rainer also worked with Initiatives of Change International by coordinating the relations with the UN and other International Organizations and missions in Geneva. He holds a Masters in International Affairs from the Graduate Institute of Development and

International Studies in Geneva. Before joining IofC, he worked several years in the business and NGO sectors.

## Wednesday 27 July - Cultivating a Culture of Solidarity

## Dalia Ihab Younis - Egypt



Dalia Ihab Younis is a medical doctor by training, a content creator and a strategist in the development sector by profession, but by passion she is an independent artist and activist.

Dalia began taking music more seriously in 2017. She started community-based singing initiatives, performed on stage and in churches, wrote her own lyrics, music and a cappella arrangements, joined and led choirs and facilitated a cappella and song-writing workshops.

Dalia was featured in national and international media for her different one-of-a-kind projects and ideas. Over the past five years, Dalia has successfully crafted several artistic innovations and awareness content that appealed to hundreds of thousands if not millions.

The core values of all her projects include voicing the voiceless and creating an enabling and supportive setting that cherishes self-expression, respect and diversity.

[Discover Dalia's music here](#)

## Olena Kashkarova - Ukraine



Olena Kashkarova is a Ukrainian mediator, facilitator, and trainer on non-violent communication. She has been based in Berlin, Germany, since the beginning of the full-scale Russian invasion in spring 2022. Having worked in the area of peace-building in different capacities for over a decade, she is now a Ukrainian activist, supporting hospitals in Ukraine and Ukrainian defenders with life-saving supplies. Together with her German and Ukrainian friends they established a German-based organization called '[Solidarity in Action](#)'.

## Kawser Amine - USA / Afghanistan



Kawser Amine is the founder and CEO of WSPL. She was born and raised in Kabul, Afghanistan, and is a former member of the female Afghan national soccer team. Kawser earned a Bachelor's degree in General Management and specialized in International Relations at the Indian School of Business Management in New Delhi, India. She has worked with different parts of society as a young women leader and peace activist to improve the participation of women in leadership, governance, politics, peace processes and sports. She is a women's rights activist and endeavours to bring light to specific issues concerning women's rights. She works as a leadership programme assistant officer of the national security council and as a political analyst for the secretary council of Afghanistan. She also

works for a radio programme and has worked with multiple organisations as a volunteer. Her objective is to give a voice to the thousands who have no voice. She has always tried to stand up and support women in different sectors of society. As a part of the young generation from Afghanistan she wants to speak up on behalf of the young people of her country.

## Webinars

### Culture of Solidarity – Tsegga Medhin

Solidarity is the bridge between the possibility of healing and the step towards action and justice. Most healing processes can't be addressed alone, a culture of solidarity is therefore needed.

During this session we began to see solidarity as essential to our individual and collective healing processes and as an indispensable element in enabling us to move towards global action in the search for justice.



**Tsegga Medhin (USA)** is a humanitarian, an executive coach and an equity accelerator. She is an activist in the business of building a better world by advocating for social impact. With over 20 years of corporate leadership experience with Wells Fargo, IBM, and Credit Suisse, Tsegga is a speaker and a certified executive coach to affect individuals and organizations on leadership that is not only technical but adaptive, not only transactional but transformational. Tsegga Medhin is the President of UN WOMEN USA NC. As the founder of The Pearl Leadership

Institute she aims to impact and inspire underserved, under-resourced women and children in STEAM education and careers. She is a graduate of Harvard Kennedy, School of Public Policy Leadership and Ethics and the UCLA Anderson School of Management.

## Going to the Root

This webinar focused on the human journey of going to the root. Regardless of the social, political, environmental or economic issue, going to the root means discovering the deeper layers of beingness where real, meaningful and sustainable change can manifest.

We explored three interrelated topics: Indigenous prophecies and spiritual leadership, children and intergenerational collaboration and, lastly, art as a vector for social healing.

The aim was to support changemakers in returning to their spiritual homes and seeing action through the lenses of social healing and personal healing.

After celebrating our webinar, **a seven-month period of community building was launched, as a** partnership between the Creative Leadership & School of Conscious Politics team. The main reference was to the seven steps of the Spiritual Politics model:

1. Listen to the social pains of your context
2. Reconnect with your soul mission
3. Acknowledge your gifts and talents
4. Bond with the right networks and coalitions
5. Take time to strategize to overcome obstacles
6. Manifest your sacred activism
7. Celebrate the learnings

This webinar was conducted by a wide gathering of people:

- [Grandmother Ejna Fleury \(Crow Creek Sioux Tribe in South Dakota/USA\)](#)
- [Grandmother Rosa Visolela Namises \(Namibia\)](#)
- [Brother Phil Lane Jr \(Ihanktonwan Dakota and Chickasaw Nations/Canada\)](#)
- [Sister Irina \(Bolivia/France\) - Speaker](#)
- [Sister Maria Belén Paz \(Bolivia\) - Speaker](#)
- [Sister Sofia Mariscal \(Mexico\) - Speaker](#)
- [Sister Maruee Pahuja \(India - Speaker](#)
- [Brother Rodrigo Martinez Romero \(Mexico\) - Speaker](#)
- [Sister Angelika Kobl \(Germany\) - Speaker](#)



## Workshops

### Mohamed Gabris - Lebanon



**Mohamed** brings seven years of experience in the humanitarian-gender-protection nexus while responding to the Syrian refugee crisis in Lebanon. His expertise includes programme quality assurance, mainstreaming gender, accountability, and different protection-related aspects; working with various NGOs and INGOs in Lebanon such as Action Against Hunger, the Norwegian Refugee Council and recently the ABAAD - Gender Resource Center. Since 2013, Mohamed has been working in the domains of personal and community development with Initiatives of Change. He has worked mainly in India,

Sri Lanka, Lebanon and other parts of the world through different initiatives that revolve around capacity-building, programme coordination, facilitation and event management. Mohamed completed his MA from Notre Dame University in International Affairs and Diplomacy, with a focus on nationalism and identity. Currently he works in the humanitarian field in Lebanon and is also a volunteer as a suicide prevention helpline operator at Embrace.

Watch the workshop here:

[Creative Leadership 2022 - Mohamed Gabris](#)

## Fadi George - Egypt



**Fadi** considers his main vocation to build bridges of peace among different groups and worlds. Fadi is interested in arts, peace, justice, and safe spaces. His Master of Arts in Transformational Leadership from Seattle University inspired him to work on the training of young leaders in Egypt who are interested in building a just and peaceful society. His long-term vision is to create safe spaces that allow a journey of authentic transformation within our organizations, societies and the world. Today he continues to inspire young people to be the possibility in a complex world.

Watch the workshop here: [Creative Leadership 2022 - Fadi George](#)

## Yvonne Buchheim - Germany

**Yvonne** is an interdisciplinary artist and educator who returned to Germany in 2019 after 20



years abroad. Her art explores the body as a home, a concept challenged by the diagnosis of a life-threatening illness. Using biographical narrative and stop-motion film, she reflects on illness and healing intersecting with a pandemic. The resulting artworks are intimate testimonies of fragility and resistance, they visualize the paradoxical, absurd, and existential in life.

Yvonne Buchheim has presented her artworks in numerous exhibitions and installations worldwide, including the Cheekwood Museum of the Art in Nashville, USA, and an underwater sound installation at a public swimming pool in Newtown, Wales, UK. Her recent solo exhibition at the ACC Gallery Weimar was funded by

NEUSTART KULTUR from Deutscher Künstlerbund and an accompanying book will be published in 2022.

Watch the workshop here: [Creative Leadership 2022 - Yvonne Buchheim](#)

## Quiet Time

Quiet time is a core practice of Initiatives of Change, and one of the best ways to introspect, connect with one's inner self and others. For this reason, this year's Creative Leadership conference offered a collective quiet time at the beginning of every day, in order to use inner listening and reflection as a core tool in moving from healing to action.

During this 30 minutes, participants had the chance to explore different ways of practising inner reflection, ranging from open reflections (through songs or texts) to guided questions related to each day's theme. The sessions included room for general sharing. Each quiet time facilitator brought their own definition and experience along with their practice. Participants were encouraged to take what they adopted into their day to day lives.



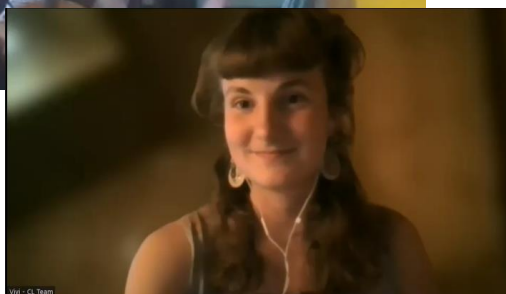
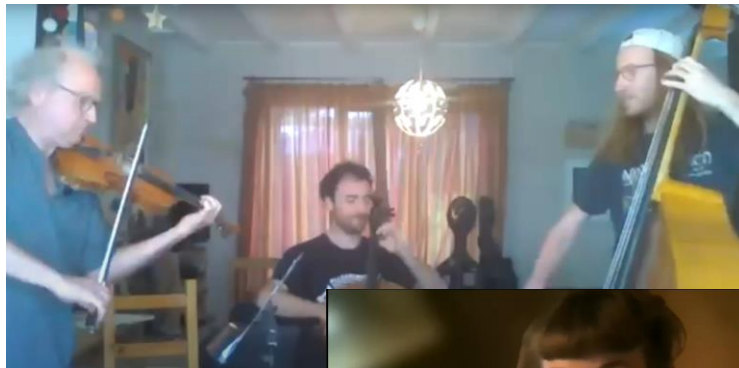
Ahmed Abdelsalam facilitated a quiet time, relating a fable on how people can pass up on opportunities for happiness.

## Tea Time

At the end of each day, participants were offered an informal optional space where they could meet webinar and human library speakers in smaller groups. Other breakout rooms included a culture sharing space, international music jam sessions, art sessions and an unfacilitated space where participants could meet each other. Tea times were ranked the second most successful sessions in the conference, with dialogue groups taking the lead. These spaces, where people could participate actively and listen to one another, helped forge lasting and meaningful connections.

## Closing Session

The closing ceremony began with music provided by the Trio Rigudon, a father-son band composed of Bennet on the violin, Raphael on the cello and Clement on the double bass, playing everything from oriental to jazz. Participants were given the chance to share what had affected them most deeply from the dialogue groups, before finishing with a celebration of our backgrounds, with participants speaking about their countries and culture.





## What participants said this year

*'We blossomed from silence to relevant deep sharing. We felt a safe space where we trusted each other with deep things, and laughter and love.'*

Charles Aquilina

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*'We all came in as individuals acknowledging that we needed to acknowledge pain and accept and embrace healing. From there we were all walking on this journey and held each others' hands. The culture of solidarity came to the forefront when we walked together through haze not knowing what is beyond.'*

Arpan

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*'We started as a group and ended as a family of diversity'*  
Fahim Mayar

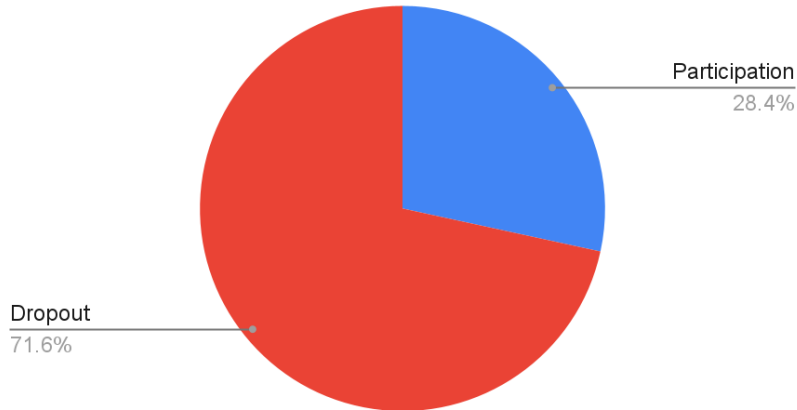
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*'Conscious healing plus unconscious healing equals optimal healing'*  
Swee Lin

## Statistics

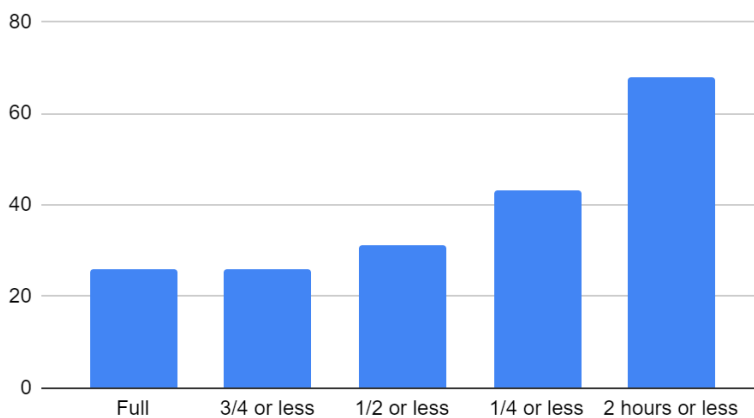
### Registrations vs Participation (682 registrations vs 194 participants):

#### Dropout Rate



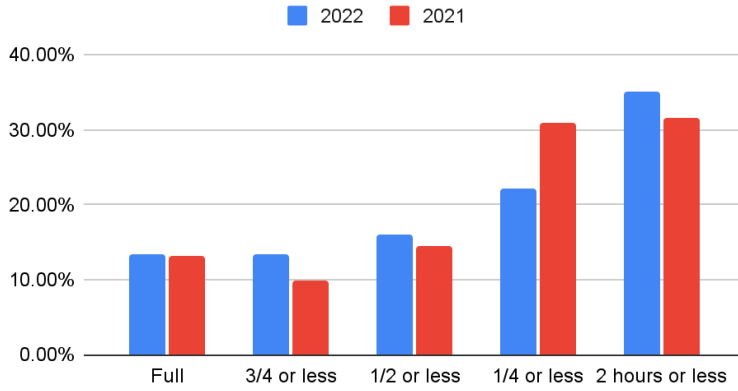
### Participants' Commitment (43 attended 13 hours or more)

#### Participants Commitment



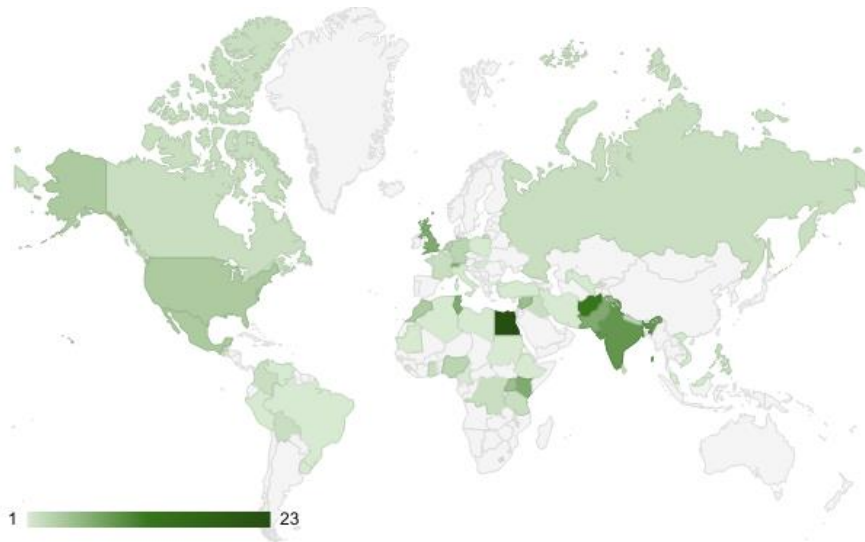
## Participants' Commitment compared to last year

Participants Commitment



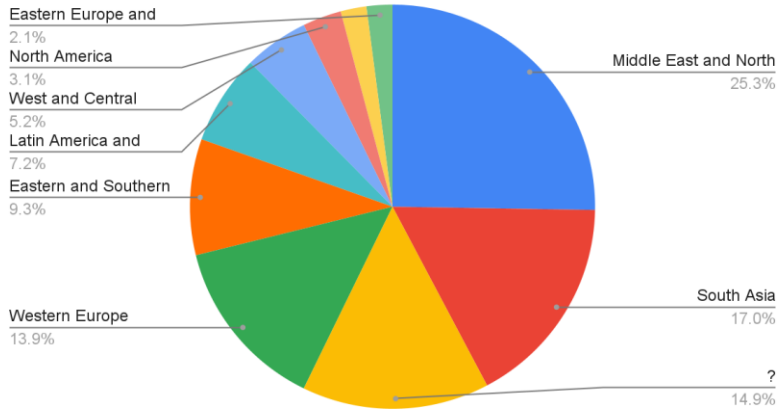
## Participation Demographics

Around 200 participants living in 54 countries

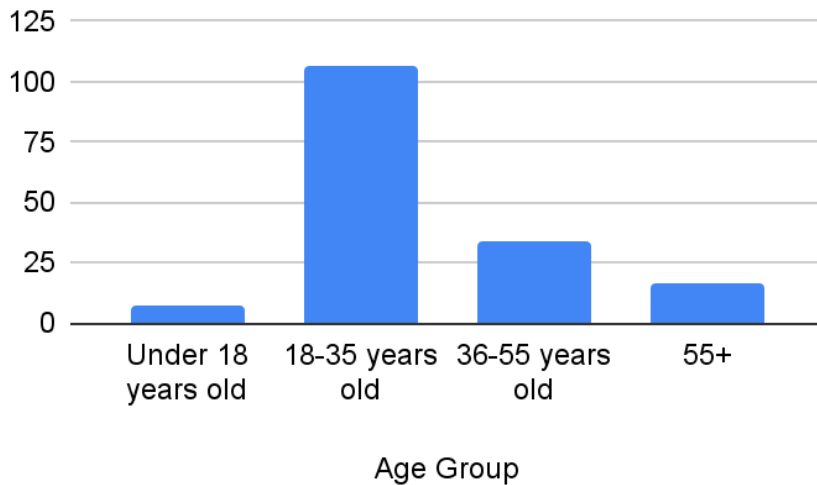


## Participation demographics (54 countries)

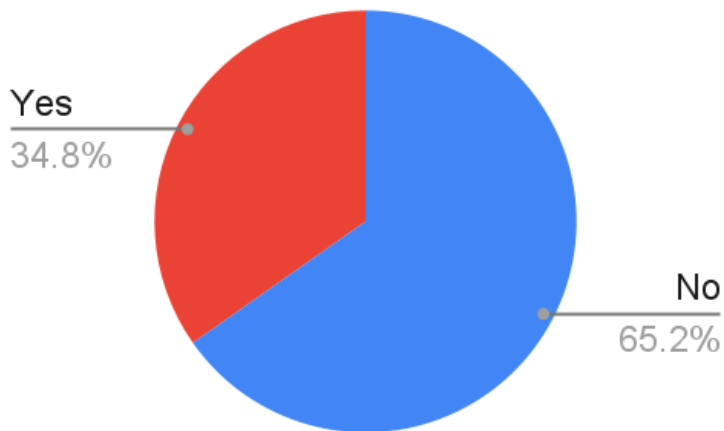
### Region



## Participation Demographics



## Participants' Background (Have you attended an lofC event previously?)



## Promotion

Social media brought in the most registrations and participants, and the personal invite was the most effective method to encourage participation and engagement.

### Advertising Source

