

Young Professionals Subcommittee**Rafal Sliz**

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Highlights from the past

- Region 8 GOLD Exceptional Volunteer Award has been organized in November and among 11 remarkable nominations, three volunteers were awarded: Khaled Mokhtar, Tomislav Pokrajcic, Andreas Neumeier
- A new set of promotional materials has been prepared - T-shirts, cups, stickers, etc. Materials will be presented to IEEE members at large events: Regional meetings, Sections Congress and SYP14
- Company Branch Program:
 - In order to increase the cooperation among members within the companies, YP Subcommittee lunched a new initiative called Company Branch Program
 - IEEE members of two big companies (Infineon and Intel in Germany), were selected as a pilot and informed about the opportunities of networking and cooperation
 - Additionally, this initiative tightens the cooperation with the R8 Industry Relations Subcommittee
 - More efforts are needed to activate members working in companies
- Reporting:
 - All YP AG Chairs in Region 8 were asked to submit reports about activities held in 2013
 - Most of the AGs submitted reports with additional valuable feedback information
 - Based on submitted reports, further actions of R8 YP Subcommittee will be planned
- Publication in the Region 8 Newsletter and GOLD Rush
- Constant presence in the social media - Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter
 - New R8 Young Professionals Facebook website has been lunched
- Hellenic Student Branch Congress, Nicosia, 2nd of November - R8 YP organized a lecture about YP activities
- A Skype meetings with YP Chairs to recognize and solve issues concerning YP, have been organized
- Preparation to SYP 2014 in Krakow:
 - Together with SAC, YP Subcommittee coordinates efforts and provides help to local organizers
- Initialization of new YP Affinity Groups in Region 8:
 - R8 YP Subcommittee initialize and revitalize YP Affinity Groups in the IEEE Sections where the amount of YP members is sufficient
 - Email has been sent to all YP members within selected Sections:
- Norway (257 YPs, 10 responses)
- Denmark (294 YPs, 6 responses)
- Austria (458 YPs, 4 responses)
- Romania (268 YPs, 9 responses)
- Israel (204 YPs, 1 response)
- Russia (143 YPs, 6 responses)
- Hungary (123 YPs, 4 responses)
 - Currently, four applications are in the final stage: Norway, Denmark, Austria and Romania
- Involvement in rebranding of GOLD and promotion of Young Professionals among IEEE members

Future activities

- Region 8 Webinars Program - new initiative to provide high quality webinars to R8 YP members
- Event Exchange Program - oriented to provide a platform for ideas/materials exchange among YPs
- Intensification of efforts related to SYP Congress
- Finalization of the GOLD - YP transition
- Continuation of already ongoing projects

Best practices

- Personalized contacts are critical
- Recognition and awards are the best way to appreciate and motivate volunteers
- Provide promotional material and short manuals i.e. "How to use SAMIEEE"
- Keep the website and social networks updated
- The feedback to the YP Chairs following their reports, suggestions, questions. It is important to assure YP Chairs that we seriously take into account their opinion and ideas

Fig. 1. Young Professionals Affinity Group distribution in Region 8.

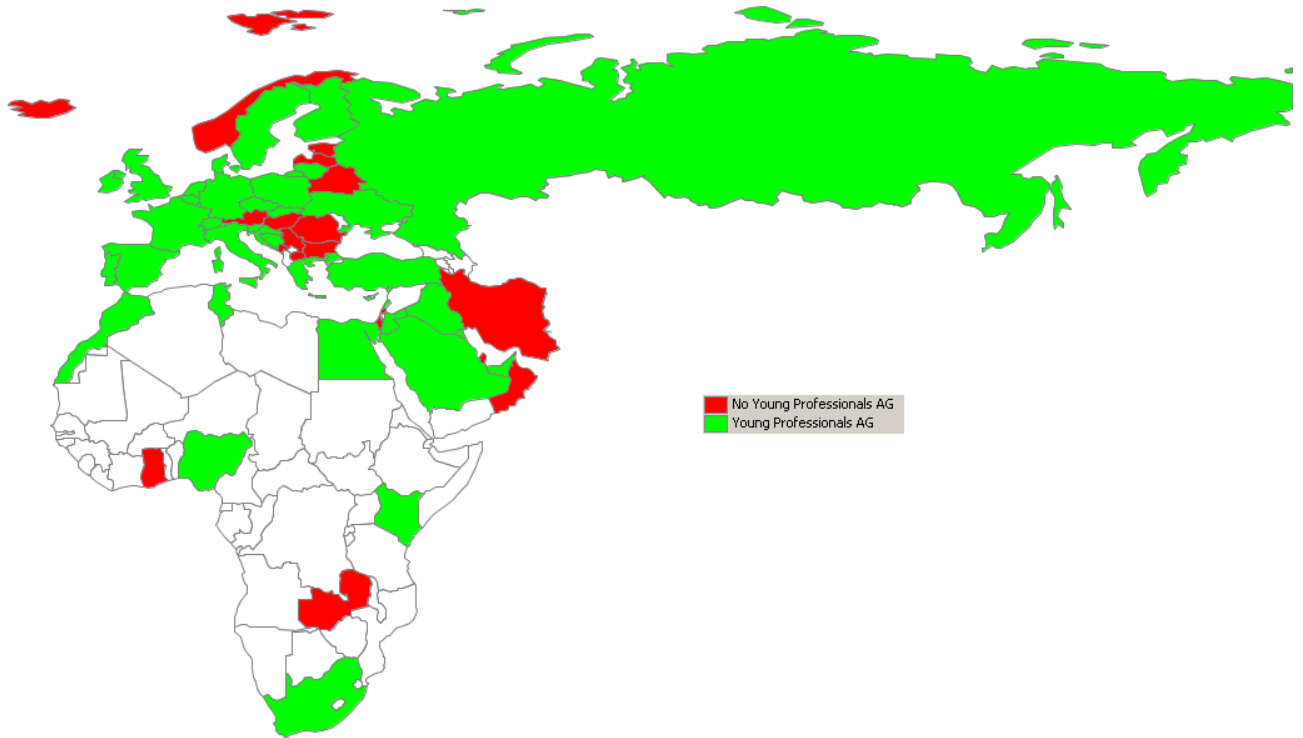


Fig. 2. Number of Young Professionals per Section.

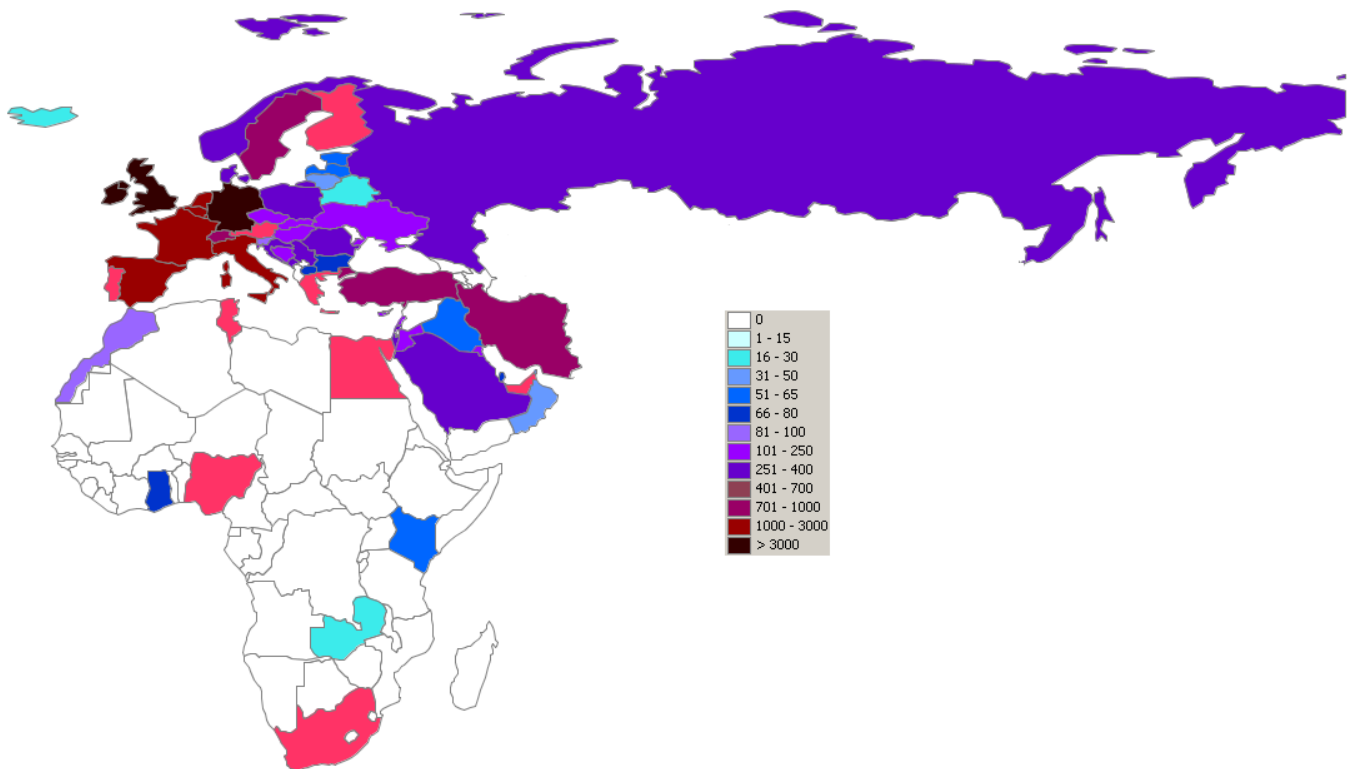
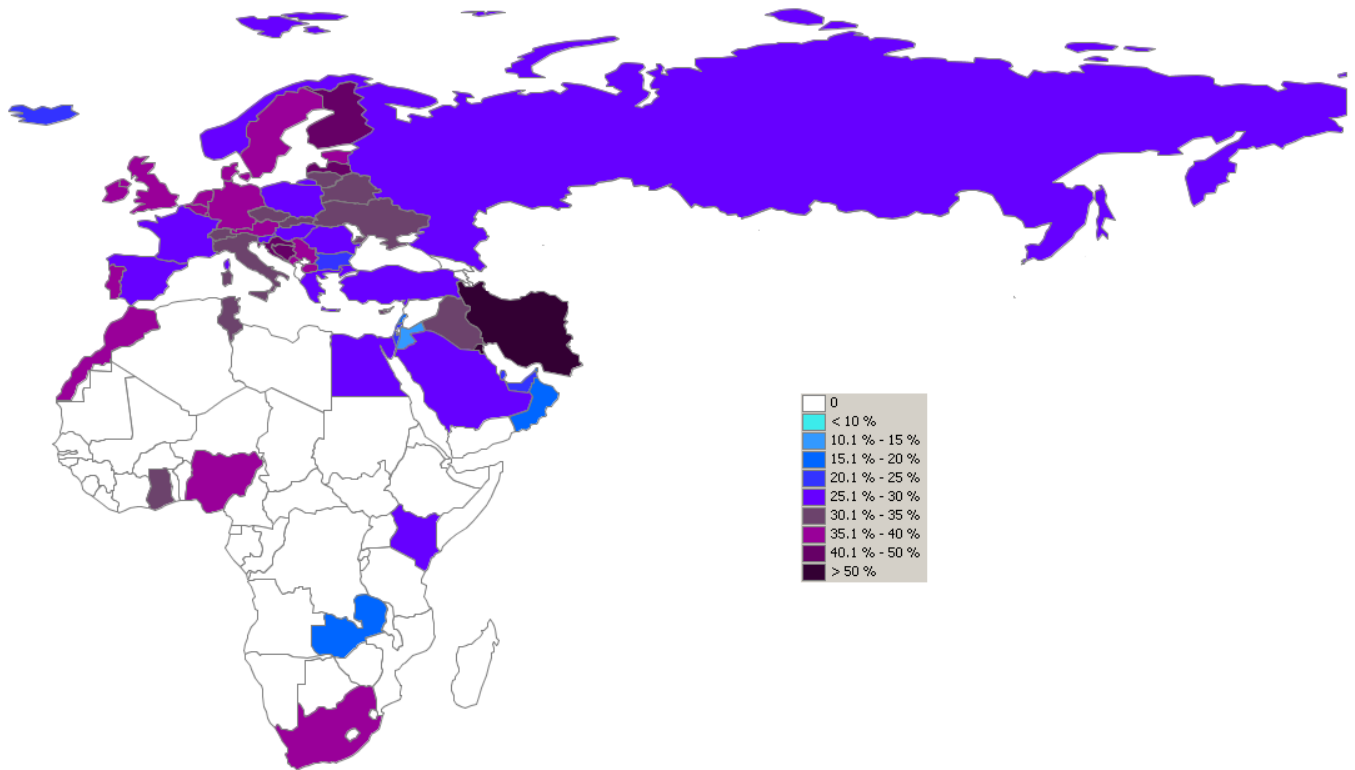


Fig. 3. Percentage of YP members in Sections.


Points of concern / Topics for future discussion

- YP members retention is low and more attention is needed
- Section Chairs underestimate the YP members - not enough support for YP AGs from the Section side

Data source: SAMIEEE January 31st 2014