

# **Congress Coordination Team**

# Barbara Vujkov

## Goals

IEEE R8 Congress Coordination Team (CCT) is a new team, created in 2020, which has been created to help manage/monitor R8 SYP's in a more structured manner thereby producing high quality events.

The R8CCT chair, Barbara Vujkov, started to work closely with VC/SA and YP in order to understand the scope, draft clear tasks and agree on the roles/responsibilities that would be required to arrange successful congresses. The idea was to have more team members that may be identified and appointed on a need basis. The first involvement of R8CCT was in new event, IEEE Region 8 Virtual Student and Young Professionals Congress.

## Involvement in IEEE Region 8 Virtual Student and Young Professionals Congress

Unfortunately, in the wake of escalations of COVID-19 and following developments since March 2020, it was decided on May 15 not to hold the Region 8 Student and Young Professionals Congress 2020 in the envisioned form of an in-person meeting from August 5th to 9th, 2020. The decision summed up personal and collective continuous monitoring of this special situation done from the perspective of five different committees, including R8CCT.

The IEEE Region 8 Virtual Student and Young Professionals Congress 2020, or vSYP 2020, took place in a unique form and spread over 13 days during September 14-26, 2020, in a hybrid format with 3 hours of daily content during 18-21h CEST (16-19h UTC). The vSYP involved a series of plenary sessions, workshops, competitions, social activities, and many more. The congress overall had 1700 registered participants.

Since the R8 Virtual SYP was a completely new event, R8CCT was involved in every part of the organization process. That included involvement in making decisions, scheduling the meetings, making congress agenda, contacting speakers, taking meeting notes, promoting the event on the social media, help with moderation during the congress, etc, all with the aim to arrange a successful congress and to help the chair of IEEE R8 Virtual SYP, and the rest of the organizing team.

Unfortunately, during 2020 there was no need for new members of the R8CCT, which can be changed in the future.

## Plan 2021

The plan for 2021 is to support cross-sectional SYP activities in 2021 and the next R8SYP (depending on the situation and OpCom decision). Furthermore, the plan is the expand the team with new volunteers experienced in the organization of congresses in order to R8CCT help with arranging successful congresses in 2021 and after.







