

## Life Members in R8 – an Overview

The Life Member (LM) status is the logical part of the IEEE membership organizations of the line student, regular, senior and fellow membership which continues in the life membership. The related organization units of the social, technical activity are the Student Branches, Student Branch and regular Chapters as well as the Life Members Affinity Groups (LMAGs).

The LMs are IEEE members for the rest of their life following the slogan *Experience Does not Go on Retreat*. IEEE LMs are individuals whose age is at least 65 years and have been members of IEEE at least for 35 years. The LMAGs are similar organization units as the Chapters but they are not connected to Societies. Their role is keeping the LMs active in the IEEE community by providing a social and professional frame to continue the earlier professional activity, being mentors of YPs and Chapters furthermore preserving the history of science and technology.

Forming LMAGs is connected to a petition process which should be endorsed by at least six LMs. The LMAGs belong to the Sections and the overall parents are the Regions and the IEEE Life Members Committee (<https://life.ieee.org/>).

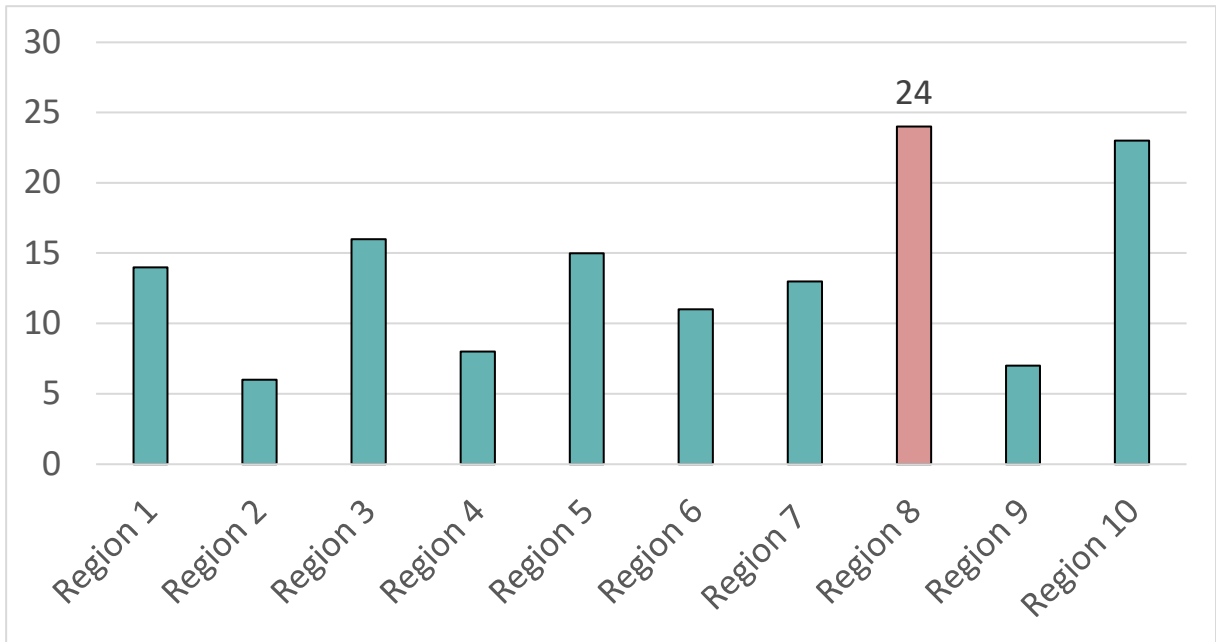
Currently, there are ~2950 LMs in Region 8. The big majority i.e. 84% of the LMs are organized in 24 LMAGs which is currently the largest regional LMAG group worldwide. Only ~60 LMs (2%) belong to Sections with less than six LMs and cannot form LMAGs. On the other hand, there is a potential to form LMAGs in 12 Sections. Even this is a minor part (14%) of the R8 LMs but a remarkable not used opportunity to connect ~420 members to the organized IEEE activity.

Most of the existing LMAGs (19) are located in Europe, four are in Middle East and one in Africa. The history of R8 LMAGs started in the Israel Section (2002), continued in the Sections France (2004), Italy and UK&I (2006), Croatia (2008), Switzerland and Spain (2010), Greece, Hungary, Slovenia (2011), Benelux (2016), Lebanon (2017), Egypt (2019), Romania (2020), Czechoslovakia, Germany, North Macedonia (2021), Jordan, Poland, Turkey, (2022), Bulgaria, Cyprus, Portugal, Serbia & Montenegro (2023). Which LMAG is the next one in the series? It will be reported in the next issue of R8 News..... We hope on continuing this LMAG development success since four petitions are in progress currently.

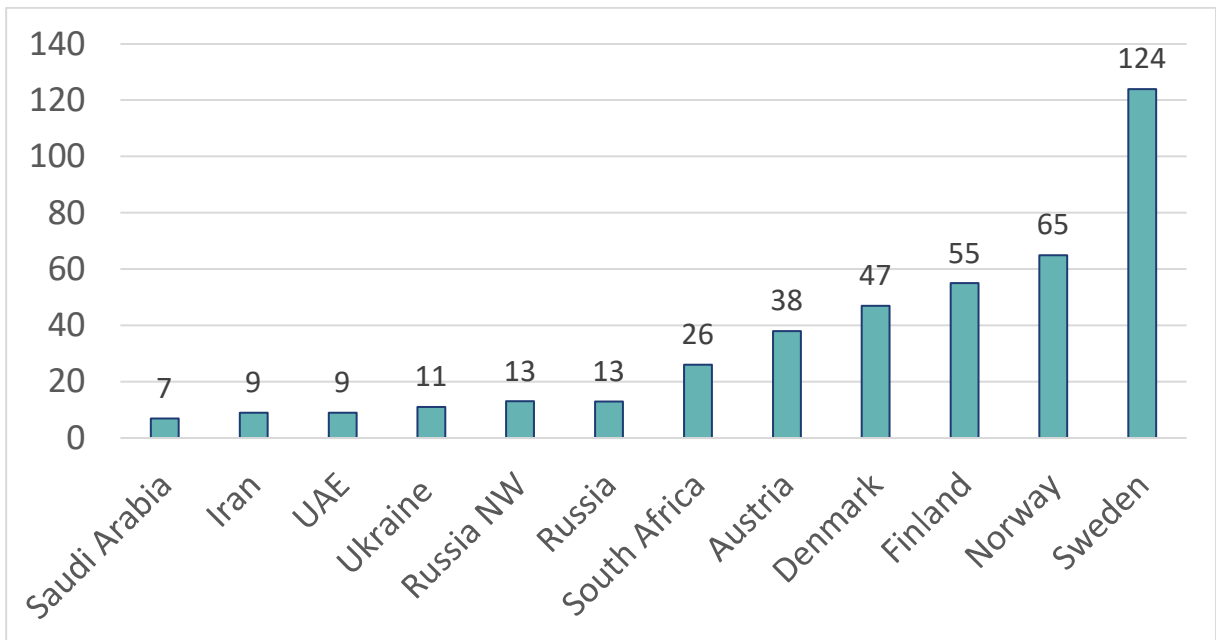
The other part of the history is related to the R8 LM Committee (<https://ieeer8.org/category/life-members/>), which is part of the Membership Activity of the R8 Committee. The Committee Chairs were Jacob Baal Schem (Israel. 2004-06, 2009-10, 2013-14), Peter Hill (UK&I, 2007-08), Aleksandar Szabo (Croatia, 2011-12), Charles Turner (UK&I, 2015-18), Victor Fouad Hanna (France, 2019-20), Peter Magyar (Germany, 2021-).

*Peter Magyar, R8 LM Committee Chair*

*April 15, 2023*



LMAG distribution by Region – we have 24 of the worldwide existing 142 LMAGs



Potential to establish new LMAGs – 12 R8 Sections have more than six LMs