

Note on changed membership and conference fee structure

Dear EUSPR members and conference attendees

You might be wondering

- why the conference fees have increased for the EUSPR annual meeting in Cremona 11-13 September, 2024
- why we do not offer the possibility to register for the conference while renewing the membership for that year (or even the following year) at the same time.

We have reluctantly decided to separate conference and membership fees for the EUSPR, and to increase the conference fees for 2024, compared to previous years, for several reasons:

- The increased financial pressures as a result of inflation in recent times had their toll on the EUSPR as well: our costs – including venue hire, catering, equipment, supplies, staffing, IT support, programme production, maintaining our programming, registration, and virtual event platform – have increased substantially. At the last conference, for instance, the per capita cost for catering alone was higher than some categories of conference fees. As we need to ensure a sustainable future for the EUSPR, without relying continuously on possible help from supporting organisations and external funding, our Conference needs to cover its costs. So, it has been necessary to increase fees for 2024, compensating also for the fact that our conference fees haven't increased for many years. Still, we are confident that EUSPR conferences are still affordable compared to other conferences in our field.
- Several members have been asking for the possibility to have team membership, where an institution, NGO or research unit can register a group of people as members, and benefit also from registering an entire group to the conference, with additional benefits for 2- or 3-year membership commitments. We are thankful for the suggestion and have worked on an option of such memberships that are available since this year: see [Team Membership Fees](#). However, this option increases the administrative burden for the EUSPR office, as it increases the complexity of the fee structure. Besides, with the EUSPR conference location changing each year, there are also different costs of living and budgets in different countries to account for. Taken together, we think that it makes sense to separate conference fees and membership fees for the EUSPR.

As a result, this year we are reluctantly increasing the registration fees and make the membership fees again independent from the conference fees.

We have taken care to keep the increases as low as possible and to target them so that most delegates, who are already members or become members and register in good time, will only pay a small amount more. The slightly larger increase for virtual delegates reflects the true cost of streaming, the other technology and support associated with virtual attendance.