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Manuel Filipe P. C. Martins Costa
Rogério Nunes Nogueira
Editors

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Introduction

The Second International Conference on Applications of Optics and Photonics ran very successfully in an exciting, friendly, and rewarding way. Nearly two hundred participants openly shared ideas and experiences discussing the remarkable and exciting recent developments in optics and photonics, and about preparing new development paths and cooperation projects.

The conference was organized 26–30 May 2014, at the Meliã Ria Hotel & Spa in Aveiro, Portugal. It was another major international event organized by the Portuguese Society for Research and Development of Optics and Photonics, SPOF—Sociedade Portuguesa para a Investigação e Desenvolvimento em Óptica e Fotónica (www.optica.pt, contact@spidof.pt). The Portuguese Optics and Photonics Society was established in November 2009—reflecting the development of the scientific and technological research in optics and photonics in Portugal over previous decades, and our main goal of promoting the development of optics and photonics in general and particularly in Portugal. Coming from all Portugal's continental and Atlantic autonomous regions, SPOF's membership is increasing in almost all fields of pure and applied research both at the university and research institutions, but also in the industry services and education.

The conference was organized to foster the establishment of the widest range of cooperation projects and relationships with colleagues and institutions from all around the world, while increasing the external visibility of Portugal, optics and photonics research. This year, the conference also hosted the Symposium on Enabling Optical Networks and Sensors (SEONS), which allowed for dedicated sessions in the field of optical networks and sensors.

The success of the conference was only possible with the commitment of the vast majority of Portuguese optics and photonics scientists and the endorsement support and active participation of the leadership of the most important international scientific optics societies and several national societies, committees, and boards.

The 612 authors were from 39 different countries—reflecting the international character of this conference. We are pleased to stress that roughly 50% of the participants were students and young researchers.

The scientific program included seven plenary sessions, three short courses, 24 invited presentations, 83 oral presentations, 86 posters, and a special session dedicated to entrepreneurship in optics and photonics.

We would like to thank the endorsers/sponsors and all participants who have made this conference a success!

Manuel Filipe P. C. Martins Costa
Rogério Nunes Nogueira