



## For Immediate Release

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### **Common Europe's Diamond Jubilee Congress concludes in Alicante, Spain; 2023 Common Europe Congress in Prague announced; New Executive Committee Elected.**



**Luxembourg, Europe:** 22 June, 2022. Common Europe is very proud to announce the successful conclusion of its Diamond Jubilee in-person Common Europe Congress (CEC). The CEC, a technical event centered around IBM Power Systems and IBM i, AIX and Linux platforms, concluded its 2022 edition resulting in participants leaving the event with enthusiasm and a high regard of community. The CEC, which has become known for offering excellence in education from high quality IBM and industry experts, continuous enhancement of the Power Systems community and extensive networking opportunities, was held in Alicante, Spain, 13-16 June.

**A record for the last 20 years:** the CEC hosted 325+ participants from 28 different countries, with 23 exhibitors and sponsors from Europe as well as the United States. It offered 9 deep-dive sessions on latest topics including MERLIN, over 100 technical sessions including the latest announcements of IBM i 7.5 as well as non-disclosure agreement sessions for the upcoming and highly awaited Power10 Scale-out models. The congress provided a well-balanced mix of traditional subject matter such as databases, application development and modernization, system management, security, and first-hand customer cases. There were many forward-looking subjects like cloud computing and its seamless integration, Artificial Intelligence, Ansible and the latest open source initiatives. Compliance and best practices in cybersecurity was also eagerly sought out by participants and they were not disappointed. For the second consecutive time, the CEC held a full AIX track that kept its promise and will continue in future congresses.

**“With this highest intensity of participation and learning offered,** the Common Europe Congress has now become the place to go for Education and Networking and truly represents the vibrant European IBM Power Systems community. It’s clear, this gathering has gained high momentum and has best business needs on its radar. I look forward to taking it to even higher levels in the coming years”, **said Juan Manuel Alcudia, Common Europe’s newly elected President.**



The prime spot of the congress was the “Secret Mission”, the launch of **NextGenCommonEurope**. “Like Steve Jobs used to say, we are choosing the smartest and most dynamic young persons, students and early career employees, and giving them the mission to build the next generation of Common Europe”, said **Shrirang “Ranga” Deshpande**, **Common Europe’s outgoing President** and this mission’s “Godfather” along with **Koen Decorte**.

Another highlight of the congress was the attendance of 14 students from Belgium, Austria, Spain, France and Switzerland discovering IBM, Power Systems and IBM i, AIX and Linux. Their enthusiastic participation in the sessions and outside brought a magnificent, young, refreshing atmosphere to the Congress.

The third edition of **IT Managers’ Day**, a day geared towards decision makers, was held on Tuesday 14 June, where they held peer discussions as well as discussions with IBM Executives on attracting young talent, upskilling existing personnel, application and infrastructure modernization and Cloud Computing.

In a first for Europe, **Common Europe held its first ISV day** on Wednesday 15 June, offering ISVs, BPs, Consultants and other channel partners an extensive learning and networking opportunity to meet customers and IBM Executives.

Furthermore, the congress culminated with a **Spanish night** with Flamenco dancing and fireworks meaning Common Europe’s Diamond Jubilee celebrations literally went out with a bang.



### Common Europe 2023 Congress Announced 11-14 June, Prague, Czech Republic.

Common Europe, in collaboration with Common Czech Republic, announced the 2023 Congress that will be held in Vienna House Diplomat Prague, Czech Republic, on 11-14 June 2023.

### Common Europe Executive Committee Elected

At a meeting that took place prior to the Congress, the Common Europe Board elected its new Executive Committee.

The 2022-2024 Executive Committee is as follows:

- President: Juan Manuel Alcudia, Common Iberia**
- Vice-President: Torbjörn Appelh, Common Europe**
- Treasurer: Piotr Tkaczyk, Common Poland**
- Marketing Director: Nathanaël Bonnet, Common France**
- Technical Director: Roberto De Pedrini, FAQ400 Italy**

**Immediate Past President: Shrirang “Ranga” Deshpande, Common Belgium**



**About Common Europe (CE)**

Common Europe, an IT user community of IBM based solutions, is an umbrella organization of European national IBM Power Systems™, IBM i™, AIX™, and Linux™ user groups. It aims to “boost networking, share experiences, provide advanced education and training, influence IBM products and solution strategy, offer savings and efficiencies to its members and accelerate an on-going open dialogue with IBM and other vendors”. It is a European non-profit community of organizations and individuals using IBM solutions. For more information, please visit [www.comeur.org](http://www.comeur.org) or contact Juan Manuel Alcudia, CE President, at [juanma@comeur.org](mailto:juanma@comeur.org) or Nathanaël Bonnet, CE Marketing Director, at [nathanael@comeur.org](mailto:nathanael@comeur.org).

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