

1st IFIC day on Cultural Diversity

Andrea Donini
(IFIC)



EXCELENCIA
SEVERO
OCHOA



DISTINTIVO DE
IGUALDAD
CSIC



CSIC
CONSEJO SUPERIOR DE INVESTIGACIONES CIENTÍFICAS



UNIVERSITAT
DE VALÈNCIA

IFIC
INSTITUT DE FÍSICA
CORPUSCULAR

cid

The UN World Day

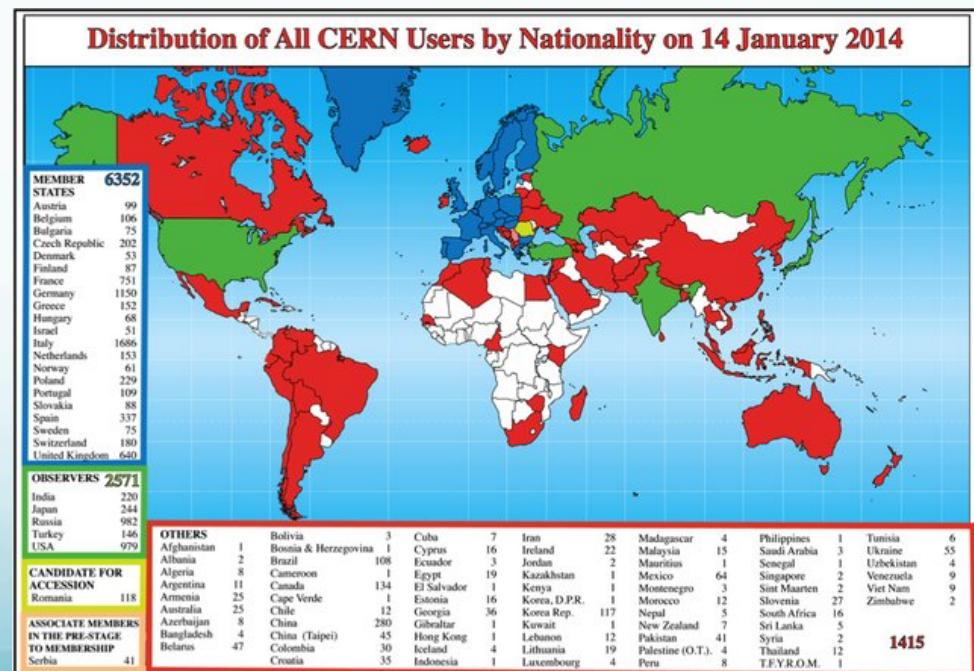
- The World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development is celebrated every year on May 21st
- It was promoted by UN in 2002 to:
 - Highlight the richness of world's cultures
 - Raise awareness of cultural inclusion
 - Promote dialogue to help prevent conflicts
- It is considered by UN as critical as biodiversity

Physics and nationality

- Clearly, to be national of “some country” and to belong to some “culture” are two different things. Still, data are mostly given in terms of **nationality**

An example

2014 CERN users
(Proceedings of the
Third African School on
Fundamental Physics at Dakar)



CERN as an example

Founding members, 1954

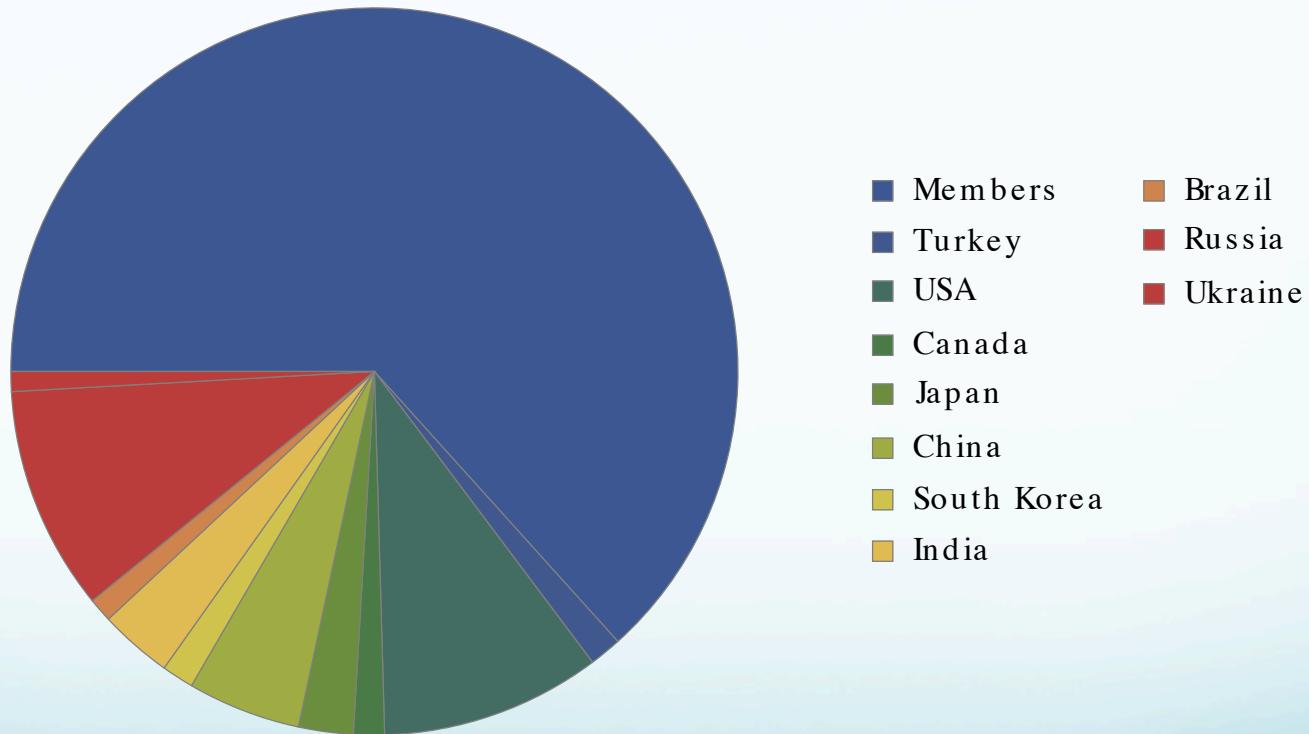


CERN now, 2025



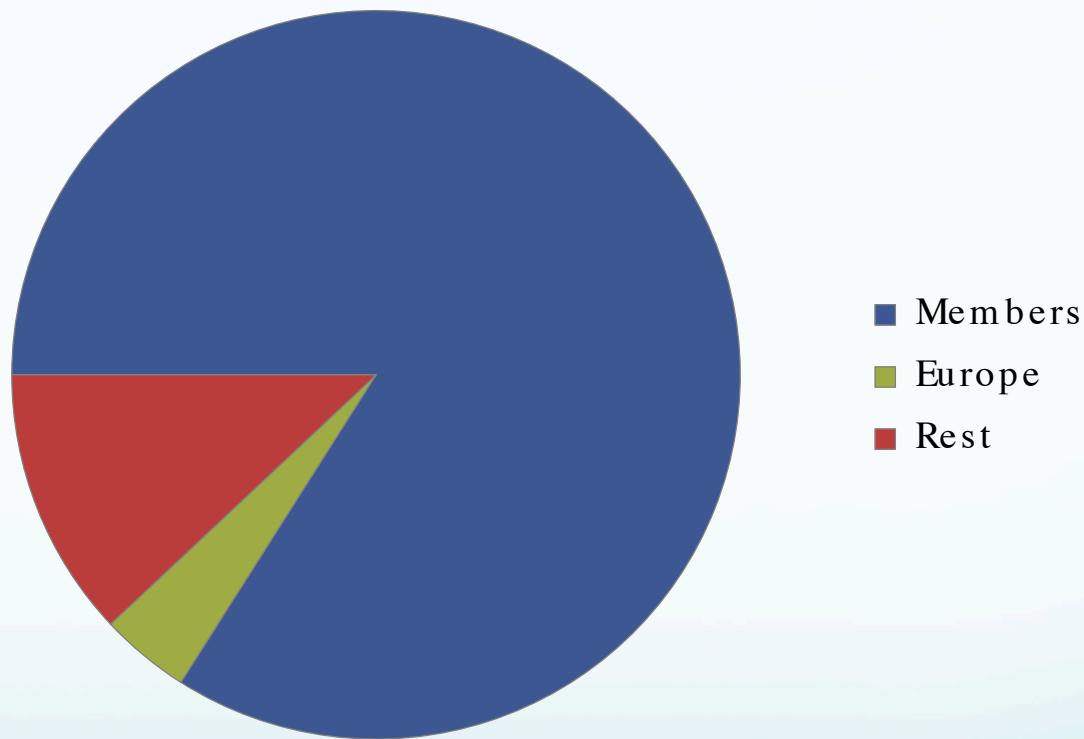
Member states: at the funding level,
pretty much an European thing...

CERN as an example, 2



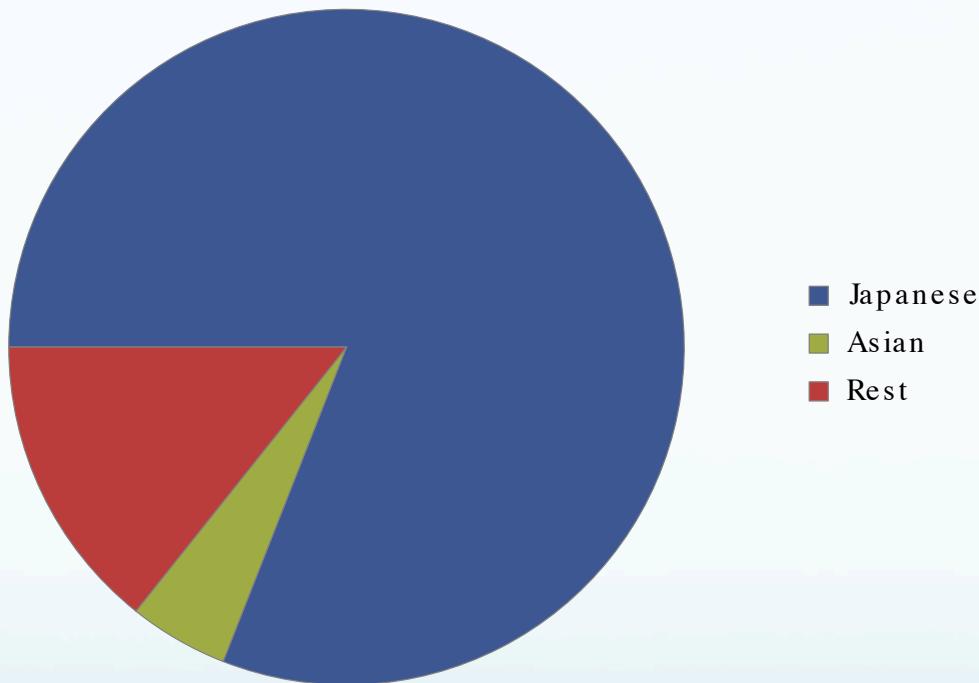
CERN Users as of 2020

CERN as an example, 3



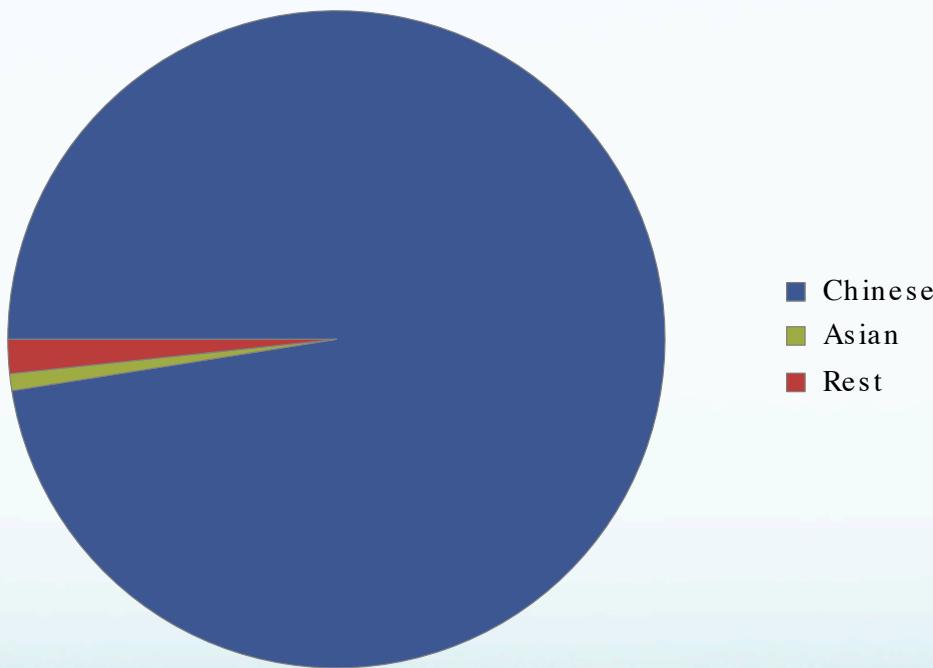
CERN theory division as of 2025

Comparison: theory dpt



KEK (Tsukuba, Japan)
theory researchers as of 2025

Comparison: theory dpt



IHEP (Beijing, China)
theory researchers as of 2025

Comparison: theory dpt

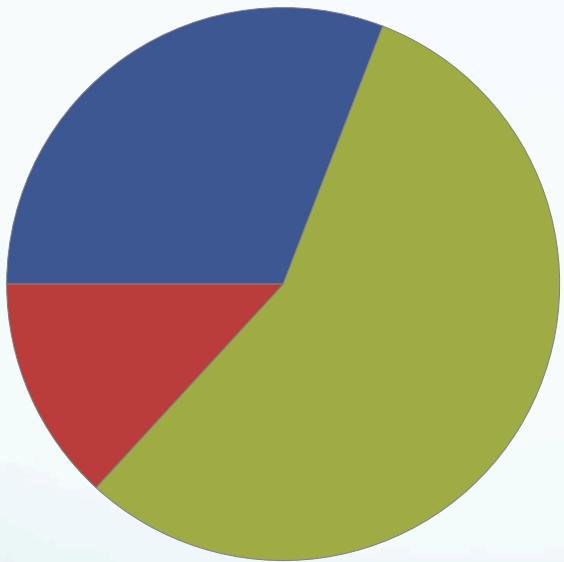


TIFR (Mumbai, India)
theory researchers as of 2025

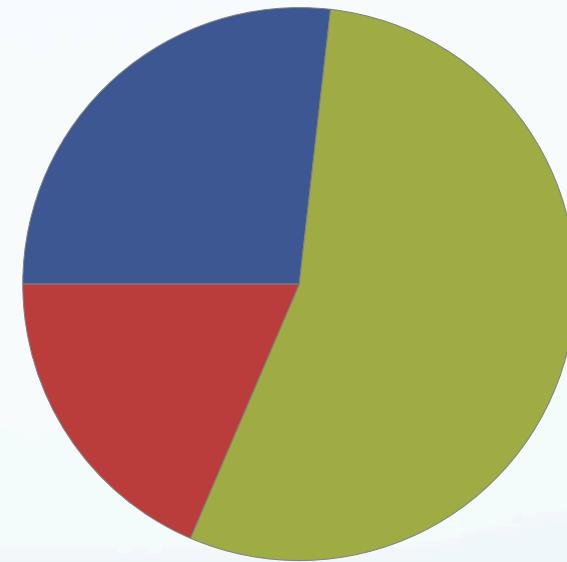
Multi-”culturality” at IFIC

- IFIC is a rather “diverse” environment from the point of view of nationalities:
 - There are researchers and students from more than 40 countries
 - 87 staff members come from Europe, “only” 69 from Spain
 - PhD students origins are extremely diversified:
 - 53 from Spain
 - 94 from Europe
 - 11 from Asia
 - 20 from the Americas

IFIC composition by nationalities

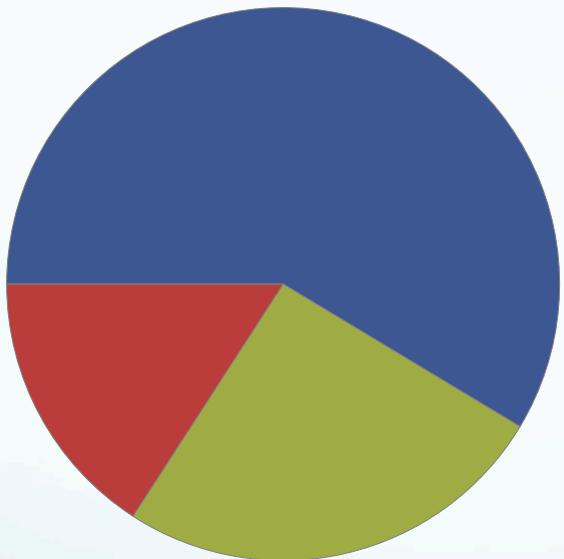


All IFIC members

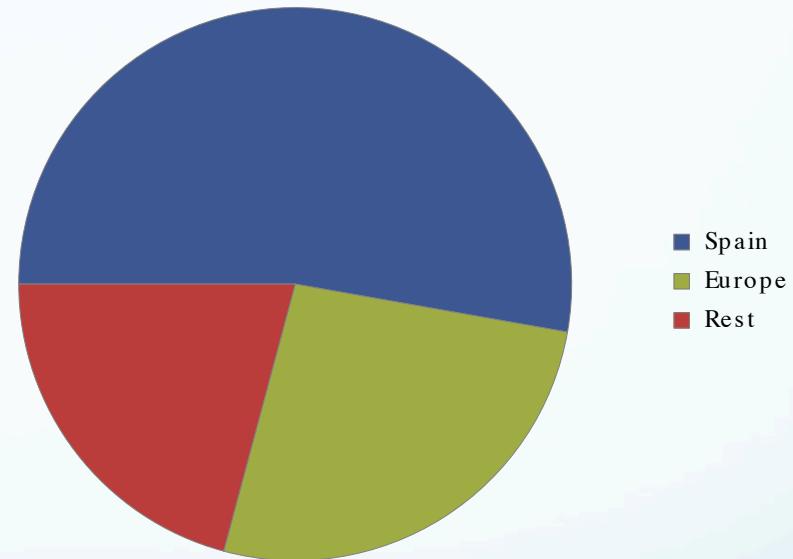


PhD and Post-docs

A spanish comparison

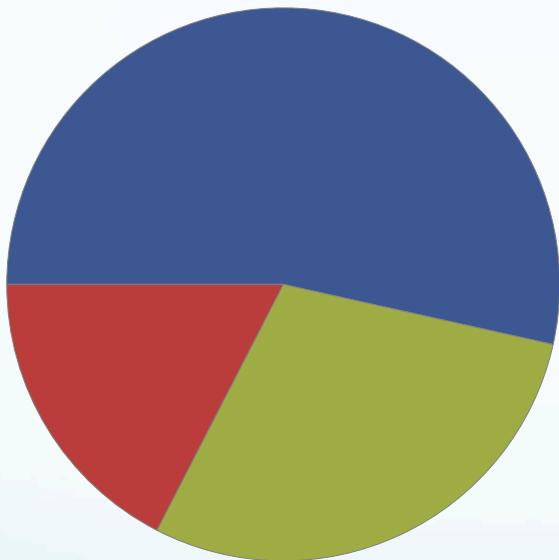


IFIC, theory only

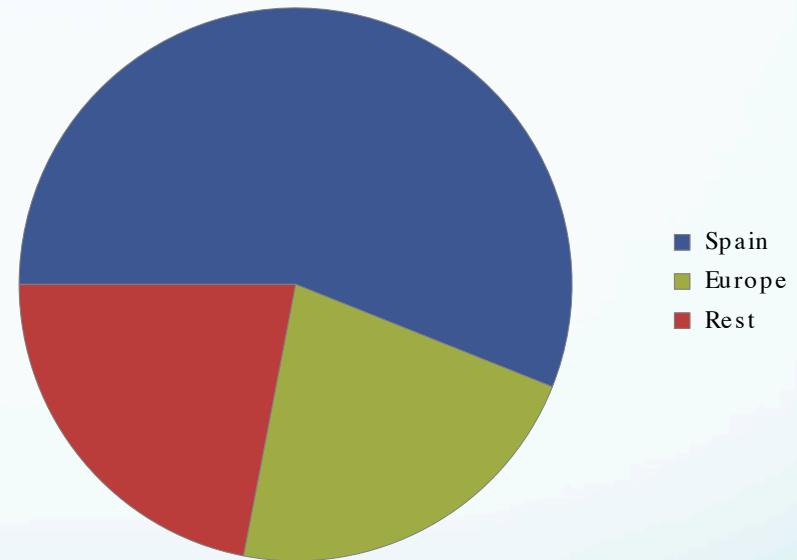


IFT (Madrid)

A spanish comparison, 2



IFIC, theory only,
PhD students



IFT (Madrid),
PhD students

Culture and Science

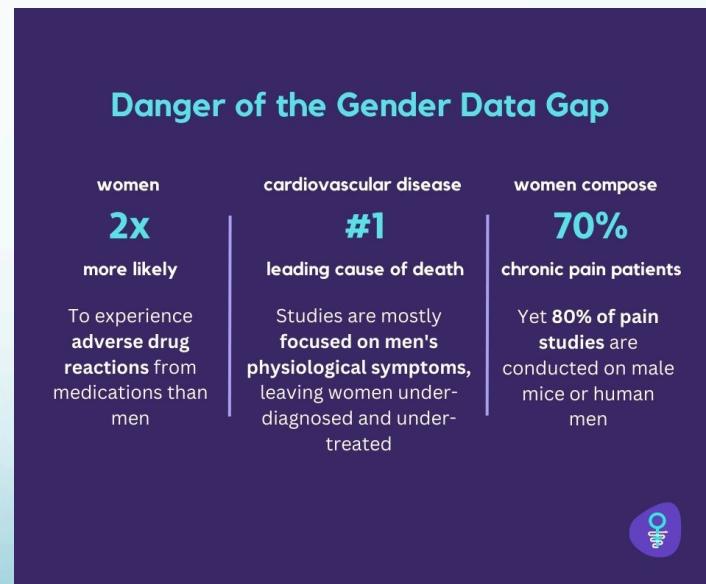
- It is easy to state the impact of “culture” without defining what a “culture” is in certain areas, such as ART



Culture and Science

- However, does “culture” has an impact on SCIENCE?
 - Most of us will usually pretend that “Science” is objective and, therefore, universal....
 - However, we already know that biological sex may be an issue when testing drugs (i.e. Medicine is NOT universal)

WHAT ABOUT HARD SCIENCE?



Physics and Gunpowder

China Europe

Discovery: Tang
dynasty (IX century)

First chemical formula:
Song dynasty (XI
century)



Brought during Mongol
Invasions (XIII century)

Artillery: first cannons
in 1346



Physics and nuclei

No need to put
a picture here



Physics and history

- The development of gunpowder brought interest in:
 - Kinematics
 - Ballistics
 -
- The development of nuclear bombs brought investment in:
 - Nuclear physics
 - High-energy physics
 -
- **HISTORICAL CONDITIONS DETERMINE WHICH PHYSICS WE ARE INTERESTED INTO**

Physics and Culture

Will CULTURAL
DIVERSITY in Physics
bring to different goals?