

From: dspam [dspam@astro.auth.gr] on behalf of Spyrou Nikolaos [spyrou@helios.astro.auth.gr]
Sent: Κυριακή, 22 Ιουνίου 2008 10:13 μμ
To: Elena.Grifoni.Winters@esa.int
Cc: Dieter.Isakeit@esa.int; Michel.Tognini@esa.int; Jean.Coisne@esa.int; Linda.Villette@esa.int; Thanasis Economou'; gdpeads_gsp@mod.mil.gr; secgenoftsouk@gsrt.gr; oste@gsrt.gr; jep@gsrt.gr; vkas@gsrt.gr; tsingan@phys.uoa.gr; 'Di Pippo Simonetta'; Olga.Garces@esa.int; spyrou@helios.astro.auth.gr
Subject: RE: ESA Astronaut Selection

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Red

Dear Elena,

Many thanks for your interesting message on the ESA Astronaut Selection procedure.

As you probably know, here in Greece we tried, I believe quite successfully, to promote the whole procedure of the recruitment of astronauts, as, of course, a new member-state of ESA should do. Dieter Isakeit, Michel Tognini, Jean Coisne and my colleague in Thessaloniki Dr Chrysoula Kourtidou-Papadeli did their best, the response of the media was impressive, and the results of the campaign are at least comparable to those in other member-states.

This conclusion becomes even more transparent, if, additionally to the table's content in your message, one evaluates the number of applications in a member state as a percentage of its total population.

It is very easy to verify that the above percentages (multiplied by 1000) for the countries in the table attached in your message are the following:

Austria:	2.56
Belgium:	2.43
Denmark:	0.64
Finland:	6.19
France:	2.88
Germany:	2.17
Greece:	1.43
Ireland:	3.08
Italy:	1.59
Luxemburg:	3.01
Norway:	1.60
Portugal:	2.00
Spain:	1.83
Sweden:	1.90
Switzerland:	4.84
The Netherlands:	1.25
United Kingdom:	1.38

Therefore, it is obvious that, for every-member-state, a few thousands of its total population have applied for an astronaut position (this percentage ranging between 6.19 for Finland and 0.64 for Denmark, with a mean value, approximately, 2.40). This result by itself is very interesting, namely, a percentage of the same order of magnitude for all member-states!!!

However, one could see the results in a different and very specific way. Of course, the absolute numbers of applications are, naturally, larger for the bigger (in total population) member-states; but the interest expressed by the citizens of the smaller (in population)

member-states is considerably much larger than that by the bigger (in population) member-states, namely, the citizens of the smaller (in total population) member-states responded much more better and much more actively.

Of course, the above is not the only way to comment on these numerical results. However, it is very interesting to see, whether or not and in which way these results are going to be appreciated and used by ESA and its Directories. Quite interestingly, this remains to be seen in the future, perhaps, in the very near future.

In any case, I believe that this is a really interesting result for ESA, because it might prove, in the long run, to be related to the future itself of ESA's activities.

Finally, it would be quite useful to see whether the other member states and possibly other persons of the administration of ESA also are interested in these results, and, perhaps, wish to comment on them.

With my best regards,

Nikolaos K.Spyrou

ESA-PB/HME National Delegate of Greece

From: dspam [mailto:dspam@astro.auth.gr] **On Behalf Of** Elena.Grifoni.Winters@esa.int

Sent: Friday, June 20, 2008 4:55 PM

To: andre.peter@ffg.at; coqu@belspo.be; verw@belspo.be; sylvie.beland@international.gc.ca; alain.berinstain@space.gc.ca; nicole.buckley@space.gc.ca; michel.doyon@space.gc.ca; ct@fi.dk; nf@dadlnet.dk; soeren.larsen@risoe.dk; risto.pellinen@fmi.fi; Pauli.stigell@tekes.fi; francois.spiero@cnes.fr; herve.buthaud@cnes.fr; fabienne.casoli@cnes.fr; guy.laslandes@cnes.fr; pierre.bousquet@cnes.fr; donato.giorgi@cnes.fr; Jan.Droz@cnes.fr; lionel.baize@cnes.fr; heinz-josef.kaaf@dlr.de; karl.reinertz@dlr.de; peter.preu@dlr.de; wolfgang.frings@dlr.de; friedhelm.claasen@dlr.de; spyrou@helios.astro.auth.gr; tchiotis@admin.grnet.gr; Bryan.rodgers@enterprise-ireland.com; sylvie.espinasse@asi.it; andrea.lorenzoni@asi.it; simonetta.dipippo@asi.it; Matteo.rinaldi@netma.nato.int; Rodolfo.monti@fastwebnet.it; r.degroot@sron.nl; H.H.deBrabander-Ypes@minez.nl; W.vanderMeulen@nivr.nl; G.G.van.de.Haar@sron.nl; r.vanakker@minocw.nl; paal@spacecentre.no; marianne@spacecentre.no; perezcarro_andrea@cdti.es; mprf@cdti.es; gonzalez_mpilar@cdti.es; RRR@cdti.es; jasv@isr.ist.utl.pt; mario.amaral@grices.mctes.pt; per.magnusson@snsb.se; kristine.dannenberg@snsb.se; Christer.Nilsson@snsb.se; daniel.neuenschwander@eda.admin.ch; Oliver.Botta@sf.admin.ch; david.parker@stfc.ac.uk; sue.horne@pparc.ac.uk; mrs@star.le.ac.uk

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Subject: Astronaut selection

On behalf of D/HSF:

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Dear delegate,

After the closure of the application period for the ESA astronaut selection, it is now my pleasure to communicate to you some interesting fact and figures.

The application server has seen, since it was last reported to you, a burst of activity. Many applicants, having probably received late their medical certificate, have registered and applied in the last few days. The load was indeed so high that the infrastructure was at pain in coping with it and some persons had temporary difficulties in connecting to the server. In compensation and to make sure that nobody had been penalised by this, the period for registration had been extended by one day and the period for application by two days.

At closure time there had been 9199 registrations and 8143 completed applications. Although this numbers might have been expected to be higher, it has to be noted that the requirement for a medical certification was already an obstacle for not really motivated applicants. In this view, the number of 8143 applications of motivated qualified candidates is a real success. The promotion campaign organised in the member states with the support of the delegations has been instrumental in this. I would like to thank you here for your support.

You will find here a summary of the number of applications per member state. EAC staff is currently working with high priority on the organisation of the first tests session. Nonetheless, more detailed statistics will be provided in the next days, at the latest at the next PB-HME meeting.

Yours sincerely,

D/HSF