

To the Board of Councilors,
International Society of Neutron Capture Therapy

Yesterday the selection of the proposals for the realization of the 20th BNCT congress was carried out. Two proposals from the American continent (USA and Argentina) and two proposals from Europe (Russia and Poland) were presented.

Although, as far as I know, there is no written rule about rotations between continents, during the 38 years of organized meetings and with the exception of Australia, they were always alternated between America, Asia and Europe. This year the congress is being held in Asia (Taiwan) and the next will be in Europe (Spain).

Assuming that rotations between continents continued being considered, the Argentine group decided to present its candidacy for the organization of the event in the year 2022. However, proposals from other countries outside of America were allowed as well. The selected candidate was Poland, again Europe. In this way, Europe will hold two consecutive meetings, 2020 and 2022.

My intention is not to raise some type of objection but to manifest to the Board of Councilors the potential risks and inequalities that may occur in what follows.

In 2020 the candidacy will be voted for the year 2024. If we again divide the map into three continents and accept presentations from all countries (without considering the implicit tradition of rotations), the following possibilities arise:

- 1) A European country wins: the congress in Europe will be held for the third time consecutively. This would separate in time Asia for 8 years and America for 10 years.
- 2) An Asian country wins: the sequence will be Asia, Europe, Europe and Asia. America is relegated to participate for 2026, and if it wins it will have been deferred in time for 10 years.
- 3) An American country wins: it would partially recompose the mentioned periodicity, but with 2 years of displacement.

In the first two cases, America will become host again after 10 years of the last congress in the same continent.

It is clear then that the implicit rule of rotations between continents maintained a political equilibrium which I think is at a potential risk. As a final reflection, I ask the Board of Councilors to analyze the consequences of the aforementioned situations and to consider if it is valid to include some type of condition on the next proposals.

Sincerely,



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