

# SCIENCE ON STAGE POSITION AND STATEMENTS

SCIENCE ON STAGE is the leading network for STEM teachers in Europe: For over 15 years our non-profit initiative has been providing a platform to support committed STEM teachers the exchange of best-practice teaching ideas across borders and in the long-term set-up of international teacher co-operations. Following the principle 'from teachers for teachers' the focus is on teachers as educational experts. Science on Stage is supporting their international professionalization:

**From primary to secondary school – motivated teachers are key to help students develop the skills they need for the societal challenges of the future.**



## SCIENCE ON STAGE:

### FROM TEACHERS FOR TEACHERS

REAL CHANGES START AT THE BASE

**CHALLENGE:** Representatives of politics, industry and education providers agree that professional and well-trained teachers play a key role when it comes to facing large scale societal challenges of the future.

**SCIENCE ON STAGE,** the European Network for STEM Teachers, continues to support the in-service training, motivation and networking between teachers with good practice teaching ideas. Teachers have engaged with Science on Stage over the past 15 years via non-bureaucratic and effective exchange activities.



## TEACHER PROFESSIONALISM

FOCUS ON TEACHERS

**CHALLENGE:** Committed teachers should be supported in their personal and professional growth. The appreciation of the teaching profession itself should be strengthened in society.

**SCIENCE ON STAGE** supports teachers' motivation by organising international educational festivals, international cooperation between teachers as well as cross-border teacher trainings. By experiencing these kind of personal exchanges with like-minded colleagues, teachers' self esteem is strengthened and new skills are gained. As a public platform for good practice teaching ideas it is especially important to us to highlight our teachers' commitment to the public and local communities in which they reside.



## AUTONOMY

INDEPENDENCE, CONFIDENCE AND APPRECIATION OF THE TEACHING PROFESSION

**CHALLENGE:** Teachers should not only communicate their expert knowledge to the students but help them gain various soft skills such as problem solving and team work. Therefore teachers need to be able to structure the content of their lessons autonomously.

**SCIENCE ON STAGE** presents practical examples of how this can be managed despite restrictive curriculum demands via workshops all across Europe. At the workshops, teachers learn how to gain more autonomy in their lesson planning by testing alternative teaching methods and working together with colleagues on interdisciplinary topics.



## PEER NETWORKS

INCREASING THE QUALITY OF TEACHING THROUGH FEEDBACK

**CHALLENGE:** High-quality teaching needs a lively feedback culture between colleagues, mutual constructive criticism as well as joint problem solving.

**AT SCIENCE ON STAGE** teachers develop from 'lone fighters' to 'team players' through our activities based on personal exchange that help build and strengthen a feedback culture among teachers. This lives on in everyday school life and even encourages colleagues to exchange their ideas and network.

- [facebook.com/scienceonstageeurope](https://facebook.com/scienceonstageeurope)
- [twitter.com/ScienceOnStage](https://twitter.com/ScienceOnStage)
- [youtube.com/scienceonstageeurope](https://youtube.com/scienceonstageeurope)

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Die Initiative für  
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# EVALUATION SCIENCE ON STAGE

We know that Science on Stage inspires teachers, but how exactly do teachers profit from taking part? How often do they apply their newly acquired teaching materials? And to what extent do the ideas exchanged at the festival spread across the participant countries? Tanja Tajmel and Ingo Salzmann from the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin have explored further into these questions. Their results give high praise for Science on Stage!



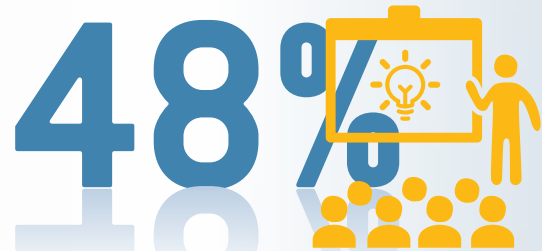
98% of the participants established international contacts; half of them made at least four good contacts.



76% of the teachers have implemented at least one teaching idea from the festival at their school.



50% of the participants were still in contact with 2-4 colleagues from the festival eight months after meeting.



48% of the teachers have conducted between 1 and 3 teacher training activities based on learning from Science on Stage within the eight months after the festival.

The participant survey took place before, during and eight months after the Science on Stage festival 2013.

## THE SCIENCE ON STAGE FESTIVAL

At a Science on Stage festival the best 450 primary and secondary science teachers from 32 countries take part. Teachers are valued as experts here: They all present their teaching ideas at stands, and some go on to jointly develop materials in workshops or show their ideas on a stage. The Science on Stage festival 2013 took place in

Frankfurt (Oder) – Słubice and was organised by Science on Stage Germany and Science on Stage Poland. In 2017 the Science on Stage festival celebrated its 10th jubilee in Debrecen, Hungary. Host to the next festival 2019 will be Cascais in Portugal.

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