

ProTon Europe Survey

AMBITION

The annual survey of the membership is intended to become one of the flagship activities of the ProTon Europe network. A Europe-wide comparative survey is a big challenge, and attempts to date by other initiatives have run up against a number of obstacles. Nevertheless, ProTon Europe has a distinct chance to succeed in this fragmented area, first by engaging the commitment of national associations to support one integrated European survey (as opposed to individual national surveys) and second by having access to a representative number of TOs (the ProTon Europe and national association memberships) which will respond to the survey. The results of the survey will have important implications for European policy in the area of knowledge transfer and will provide interesting performance/ benchmarking data for individual TOs. In the long run, it will also provide a reliable European comparison to the North American AUTM survey and other Asian-Pacific data on KTOs. The dissemination of the annual ProTon Europe survey results will ultimately contribute to increasing recognition of the knowledge transfer function and demonstrate its impact on economic and social development.

SURVEY APPROACH

The first comprehensive survey is being organised in 2005 among the ProTon Europe membership by the survey working group, with the full participation of the national associations of Transfer Offices (TOs) in Belgium, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Spain and the United Kingdom. The major part of the survey questionnaire will be common to all countries of the European Union, while the national associations reserve the right to introduce a section which is particular to their country. The questions mainly concern the knowledge transfer functions of the university or public research organisation (PRO) and its research base, as well as the way in which the knowledge transfer office (KTO) is organised. In return, the survey offers a metrics system to

- evaluate performance / progress in performance
- allow the individual KTO to carry out a self-assessment of its activities
- benchmark the activities of the KTO against others
- analyse, characterise and compare PROs and KTOs according to their respective resources and profile
- inform policy makers and stakeholders about the impact of Public Research Organisations on the economy and society.

PARTICIPATION

All ProTon Europe members are invited to take part in the survey; it is in fact one of the commitments that members enter into when they apply for membership. In return, all members receive a report of the main findings of the survey as well as a customised analysis positioning their own KTO in relation to the average and other values.



PROTON
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Innovation from Public Research

How to join ProTon Europe ?

Refer to the web-site: www.protoneurope.org and click on Application for Membership,
or phone, fax or e-mail the office below

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