

Chapter 9

Entomology from the Heart of Europe: XVII International Congress of Entomology, Hamburg, 22–26 August 1984

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The XVII International Congress of Entomology (XVII ICE) took place August 20–26, 1984, in the Congress Center Hamburg (CCH) of Hamburg, Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) (Fig. 9.1). The main national organization behind the meeting was the Deutsche Gesellschaft für allgemeine und angewandte Entomologie (DGaaE), or the German Society for Fundamental and Applied Entomology.

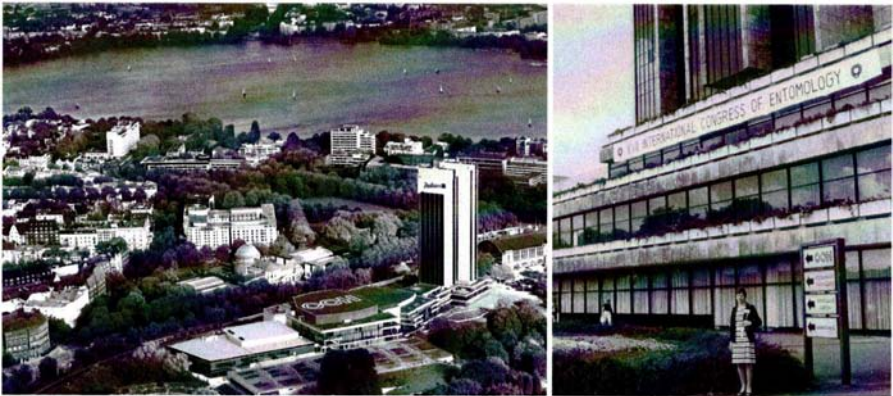


Fig. 9.1. *Left:* Aerial view of the Congress Centrum Hamburg (about 2007) (<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=11257208>), *Right:* Entrance of Congress Centrum Hamburg. (Photo: Penny Edwards)

XVII ICE attracted 2,100 participants from 77 countries. As the host country, the FRG contributed the strongest contingent with 461 participants. The United States had the second largest number with 389 participants, followed by the United Kingdom with 158, Japan with 103, Canada with 89, The Netherlands with 70, and Switzerland with 60 participants, to name a few countries. Interestingly, only 52 participants from China came to the Hamburg congress, 19 from Taiwan and 33 from the People's Republic of China.

In 1984, XVII ICE was the largest scientific gathering on a biological topic convened in West Germany. The meeting took place only five years before the German reunification. Yet, at the time, the two Germanies were light years apart on all political, economic, and societal levels, the latter including science and research as exemplified by the strikingly low number of participants from East Germany (8).