

7th European Conference on Severe Storms (ECSS)

3-7 June 2013. Helsinki - Finland

The 7th European Conference on Severe Storms was held in Helsinki (Finland) from 3rd to 7th June 2013. This topical conference is organized every two years and allows the participants to know different perspectives used to study and predict severe convective storms, and also to deepen knowledge on specific point of views. In just a week, participants can have a relevant impression about what the community is working on.

Among the invited speakers there were important scientists such as Paul Markowski, Charles A. Doswell III (in the last two editions of the conference both of them were awarded the Nikolai Dotzek Award for their outstanding contribution to the science of severe storms), Harold Brooks and Yvette Richardson. During the session breaks (ice breaker, gala dinner and coffee breaks) it was very easy to talk with them and also with all the other participants. They were approachable to everybody, including students like me. I experienced a relaxed and friendly environment that facilitated the communication.

The conference was divided into several sessions. For my PhD research interest, sessions 1 (Climate and Severe storms), 2 (Severe storm damage and impacts), and 13 (Severe storm interactions with large scales) were the ones most beneficial. I also found sessions 4 and 6 (about Storm and tornado dynamics) very interesting.

I presented the talk entitled “Medicane Risk in a Changing Climate” during session 13, on Friday morning. In the presentation, I tried to explain the different methodologies we are using in an informative way, not only to people who are working on similar topics, but to generality of the public in order to open doors to other perspectives. I also provided technical details and specific results that could be useful to contribute to other studies or to establish future collaborations. In this respect, I think I achieved both goals. Short talks during the coffee break and at the end of the conference let me know that people understood what I was talking about, which gave insight to future possibilities of collaboration with different research groups.

Summarizing, I would like to thank the European Meteorological Society for awarding me the Young Scientist Travel Award to participate in the 7th ECSS. I am sure this will serve to improve the quality of my research.

Maria Tous