



CIF CONFERENCE 2001

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**DIVERSITY: A RESOURCE OR A
MENACE FOR THE
THIRD MILLENNIUM SOCIETY?**

**(IMPLICATIONS FOR THE HELPING
PROFESSIONS)**



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THE CIF ITALIAN PRESIDENT CONCLUSION

I think that at any conference what makes the difference are the participants, they are the most important component of any congress. So first of all I have to warmly express my thanks to all the CIP/CIF members and accompanying persons who devoted some of their time and moneys to take part to the Italian CIF conference. We were 220 from 28 countries, a good representative of the world, and a good representative of the CIP/CIF family as Gisela Senssfelder, Nicole de Cacqueray, Gunvor Brettsschneider, Carl Henry Guste and others who have been deeply involved in the time and who made a big contribution to the CIF development.

The Italian conference has been the first conference where Martha Ollendorf was not present at, nor was Paul Hunger and other people less known who have been promoting the CIF spirit in the years. Let me nominate my close friend Hans Forsell from Sweden who has been the Magazine Editor for a while and use to participate to all the CIF Conferences until he got ill. We, my generation, the CIP people who had the privilege of meeting Henry Ollendorf, have to face the changing of the generations and we have the responsibility of transferring our experience to the new generations.

The world is getting smaller and smaller but there are big differences in opportunities, and now I am afraid things will get worse. People coming from Turkey, India, Nigeria, Ghana, Kenya, Tanzania Argentina need a personal invitation in order to get the visa to allowed them to come to Italy. We have been sending the invitations, phoning to the Embassies and in some cases we succeeded in allowed them to get the visas. I am very sad that I have not been able to help those people from Nigeria and Ghana who strongly wanted to come, they have paid their fees but they didn't succeed in getting their visas. The Italian Embassies in those countries didn't trust them because they fear that they will not go back. Of course I don't know about their attitude, but we have in Italy hundred people coming illegally because it is not possible to protect our boards, and our Embassy fear for few workers of helping professions. Only two boys from Ghana were able to come just at the end of the conference. Fortunately they have been hosted in Munich from a German CIF participant Jacob Braun, and they had the opportunity to make a good use of their coming to Europe.



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The Italian conference has been the first conference organised by e-mail. It is a fantastic tool. The use of electronic communication made the organisation easier. Now we are updating our web site with materials from the conference so the participants can remember it and people who were not able to come, will be able to know what has been going on. I think we have to improve the use of the web site to help the branches in their activities.

The purpose we had in planning the conference was to offer an emotional involving experience, an experience that would involve completely, as usual CIF conference do. We wanted to give the opportunity to the participants to have a real picture of the Italian culture deeper than the one given to the tourists.

Italian culture is known as a family culture as a matter of fact we can prove it. My husband Ugo has been very much involved in receiving the registration papers and the fees before and during the conference, Marco Mimmo's son has been helping during the conference and with his friends has been playing music last evening.

The theme of diversity, which we have chosen, is something, which Italian social workers have been reflecting to in many ways and we thought it is a theme quite closed to the CIF spirit. As usual the Conference program is a combination between 3 factors: professional contents, association duties, tourism and leisure activities.

The handicapped singers "I ladri di carrozzelle" (the wheel chairs thieves) who have opened the conference helped all of us to find and to share the CIF spirit of solidarity. Our experts have been presenting different approaches of diversity: diversity in opportunities, in health, in culture, in education, in art.

The professional contents have been developed by lectures and group work, and we appreciated the availability of all the experts who came. The lecture of Carla Collicelli was a wide presentation of the Italian society today, of course from the point of view of a sociologist involved in the changing to a better society, to the society that can fit the need of all his all citizens. It was the clue lecture and the HBO memorial lecture because to face the society and find out new way to better it is the goal that HBO has fulfilled all his life.



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Roberto Ghirardelli psychiatrist has illustrated the Italian experience of facing the mental illness in the community, without the psychiatric hospital, which has been the choice we made implementing the law on 1978 and we still work on it. Fiora Izzi, social worker, presented the problems of the immigrants in Italy. In last century our country faced a huge changing from a country based on poor agriculture, where people have to migrate from to Germany, USA, Latin America and so on, as you already know, we became because of the industrialisation a rich country where people are looking to come to. Silvia Gavuzzo Steward has presented the Campidoglio and the surroundings from the history and art point of view art . In Campidoglio we saw a theatre performance from Eduardo De Filippo, well known Italian theatre writer. The performance was one of the activities of the Day Centre for people with mental illness, they have been prepared the show just for the conference and they have been very proud of our invitation. It was very hot and the performance was in Italian, so I know it took some effort to stay there till the end, as mostly did.

In the last lecture, which landed us to the conclusion, Sergio Tavassi gave us a reflection on children upbringing to diversity.

The group work and the agency visits gave the opportunities to know more about Italian welfare.

The auction, the bingo, the serenade and all the fund raising matters has been a great success, the CIP/CIF people have been very generous.

Finally I have to point out how many gifts I myself have got; we have been enjoying many different flavours coming from other countries.

Is not me that can say if we really succeeded in our tools, we have been working hard but we had fun in doing it, and we had the hope, the hope we need very much now, that we made a small contribution to the human understanding and to peace.

Karó Stefán



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The site: Istituto Madonna del Carmelo



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The little station



The entrance of the site



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The preparation by Secretary's staff



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Welcome at airport



Welcome at Sassone



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Tuesday, July 24/2001.



08.00 - 14.00	Shuttle bus from Fiumicino Airport to Sassone Arrival and registration	17.00 - 17.30	Coffee break.
09.00	Board of Directors meeting.		Carla Collicelli, <i>Rome CENSIS</i> : Diversity in Italian Society at present.
12.30	Light lunch.		Clara Sereni, <i>Writer</i> : Interview on Italy: an open discussion with the participants.
14.00 - 15.30	Exchange Program Co-ordinators.		
15.30	Opening of the Conference "Ladri di carrozzelle" concert	19.30	Dinner.
16.30	Plenary Session (Auditorium)	20.30 - onward	Handing in auction items. Registration for workshops and agencies visits.
	Official opening Ceremony	21.00 - 22.00	Late registrations.
	Maria Stefani, <i>President of CIF Italia</i> : Welcome and presentation of the conference.		
	Purnima Mane, <i>President of CIF International</i> : Welcome.		



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The “Ladri di Carrozze” concert



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The “Ladri di carrozzelle” concert



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Acclamation for “Ladri di Carrozzelle”



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Welcome by the CIF Italia President



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Welcome by S. Maria Capua Vetere municipality



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Maria introduces Carla Collicelli presentation



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Clara Sereni open discussion



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The dining room



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Wednesday, July 25/2001.



7.30 - 9.00	Breakfast.	16.30 - 17.00	Coffee/Tea break -
8.00 - 9.30	Late registrations.		Deadline for E.C. candidates
09.30	Departure for the St. Peter.		Group photograph.
10.30	Free time in St Peter.	17.00 - 19.15	Workshops.
12.30	Departure for Conference Centre through Appia way.	19.30	Dinner.
13.30	Lunch	21.00 - 21.45	Introduction of candidates for the next CIF Executive Committee. (Auditorium)
15.00	Plenary Session (Auditorium). Roberto Ghirardelli: <i>Psychiatrist of Mental Health Unit3 Genova:</i> Diversity and madness. Diversity of in Psychiatric Experience.	21.45	Meeting of the National Branches



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Papal Audience Invitation Card



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The waiting and



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... The disappointment



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Luckily St. Peter is very beautiful



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Robert Ghirardelli: Diversity and madness



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Roberto Ghirardelli open discussion



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The group photograph



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THE WORKSHOPS

1) CULTURAL DIVERSITIES IN SLOVENIA

CIF SLOVENIJA Speakers/facilitators:
Vesna Miletič, Dominika Marolt

**2) DIFFERENT PEOPLE AMONG US
(DIVERSITY AMONG US)**

CIF SLOVENIJA - ITALIA speakers/facilitators:
Majda Knehtl Dušan Kuhar, Laura Pilu

**3) DIVERSITY IN CORRECTIONS:
THE ITALIAN CASE**

CIF ITALIA Speaker/facilitator:
Luisa Gandini,

4) EDUCATION: DEALING WITH DIVERSITY

Speaker/facilitator: Sandra Bradford De Costa

5) SOCIAL WORK VALUES VS. REALITIES

CIF TURKEY speaker/facilitator: Nüket Atalay

6) DIVERSITY AS A MATTER OF LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

Speakers/facilitators: Franca Iannaccio, Alessandro Radicchi

7) PSYCHO SOCIAL ASSESSMENT

**The impact of diversity on Life Style Analysis
in the first treatment session**

CIF U.S.A. speaker/facilitator: Charlie Startup

**8) MENTAL HEALTH : PSYCHOSOCIAL REHABILITATION
PROGRAM THROUGH WORK**

An experience in Genoa, Italy

CIF ITALIA Speaker/ facilitator: Corrado Roncallo



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Introduction of candidates for the next CIF E.C.



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Meeting of National Branches: the Swedish friends



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Thursday, July 26/2001.



7.30 - 9.00 Breakfast.

14.30 - 15.30

Plenary Session (Auditorium).

9.30 Agency visits.

Diversity of cultures:

House for battered women in Roma.

Fiora Luzzatto Izzi, *Molise University* : How to build a multicultural society

Training Centre for mentally ill in Albano.

School of Social Work University of Roma.

15.30 - 16.30

Workshops

House for handicapped in Grottaferrata.

16.30 - 17.00

Coffee break.

Home for children in Rome.

17.00 - 19.00

Workshops.

Day Centre for drug addicts.

19.30

Dinner

Temporary housing in Fiumicino.

21.00 - onward

Found rising night:
auction, funs and games.

Advise Centre for immigrants in Rome.

Day center for immigrant children in Rome

13.00 Lunch.

Contact persons lunch meeting.



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Agency Visits



**House for
battered women**

**House for
handicapped**

**Home for
children**

**Training Centre
for mentally ill.**

**House for
handicapped**

School of Social Work

**Day Centre for immigrants
children**

Advise Centre for immigrants

Temporary housing



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Silent Auction



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Silent?? Auction



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Funs and raising: “la tombola”



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La Tombola: one of the winners



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La Tombola: one of the winners



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Friday, July 27/2001.

7.30	Breakfast .		
09.00	Departure of coaches for Rome (tourist itinerary)	13.00	Lunch at Terrazza Caffarelli
10	Campidoglio: Welcome by Local authority.	15.30 - 19.00	Free time to explore the Central area of Rome by yourself.
	Diversity in Art	19	Departure of the Coach to Conference Centre.
	Silvia Gavuzzo Stewart, <i>University of Reading:</i>		
	A general presentation of Campidoglio and surroundings.	19.45	Dinner.
		21.00	Auditorium:
			Classical music entertainment:
11.30	Performance of student actors of Psychiatric Day Centre: "La voce della Luna".		Antonio de Innocentis, <i>guitar</i>
	Two pieces from Eduardo De Filippo theatre and Ghilbran's poetry		<i>Music from: Scarlatti, Bach, Harris, Rodrigo and traditional</i>



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Campidoglio and Marco Aurelio



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The Italian members were very busy



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The “Protomoteca” Hall



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Maria introduces Silvia Gavuzzo: Diversity in art



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Performance of Psychiatric Day Center



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The welcome of the Roma municipality representative



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The lunch at Terrazza Caffarelli



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The lunch at Terrazza Caffarelli



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Charles at Terrazza Caffarelli



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Classical music entertaining

A Guitar classic concert

Music by Bach, Scarlatti, Rodrigo
Harris etc..

Antonio De Innocentis, guitar





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Maria introduces Antonio de Innocentis



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Antonio de Innocentis is ready to start



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The Bach's Ciaccona



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Saturday, July 28 / 2001.

7.30 - 9.00	Breakfast (Dining room).	13.30 - 14.30	Boards of Directors: meeting for elections.
9.00	Plenary Session (Auditorium).	15.00	Plenary Session (Auditorium)
	Sergio Tavassi: <i>past president of the Association of Democratic Parents.</i>		
	The diversity in children's upbringing.	17.00 - 18.00	General Assembly Closing ceremony.
11.30	Plenary Session (Auditorium) Open forum on Conference theme. Workshops report. Summing up.	18.00 - 19.00	Newly elected Executive Committee meeting.
		19.30 - 21.00	Dinner.
12.30	Lunch.	21.15	Farewell entertainment. "Tammurriata e Pizzica"



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Sergio Tavassi: The diversity in children's upbringing



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A CIF Rainbow



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Summing UP

The answer to the question “Diversity: a menace or a resource for the third millennium society?” probably depends on other questions, as we have discussed these days. For example: how do we interpret life? How do we see life and ourselves? What is our perspective?

Are we able to listen to others, to what seems different? If so, we might discover how rich we can become. To see in others part of ourselves, the part not yet shown. Only fear can stop this process, fear to discover who we are, maybe the biggest fear.

If we are willing and brave enough to understand, then “The Thieves on Wheelchairs”, “The Moon Voice”, as well as many similar experiences all over the world, will have a chance to come forth, expressing and showing their wealth, not their diversity.

Charlie Startup has left me these glasses, used in his workshop. They can be the glasses of our heart, if we have the ability and the courage to go beyond what appears and beyond ourselves. So, as I put these glasses on, I will ask you symbolically to do the same...and you will see a rainbow...



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A CIF RAINBOW

**CIF a rainbow
In the sky of life
Yellow, black and white
THEN YOU'LL SEE THE LIGHT!**

**WHAT'S THE BEAUTY OF THE
RAINBOW?
LOTS OF DIFFERENCE IN THE
COLOURS!
ARE YOU KEEN ON ALL THE
COLOURS?**

Then your life can be a rainbow!

**Here in Italy all together
At the Conference CIF
It's the first of the Millennium
To discuss diversity**

**Talk about, talk about the assets
Let's consider all the wealth
Are diversities your assets?
Think about this...CIF!**



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The closing session



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The closing session



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The new E.C. Board



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Thanks to the Italian staff



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Thanks by Regional branches



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MA SASSONE 24/29 -07 - 200



Drinking the real Scotch whisky



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The serenade at the final dinner



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The final dinner: Maria and the kitchen people



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VIA SASSONE 24/29-07-2001



Farewell entertainment: **"Tammurriata e Pizzica"**



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Farewell entertainment: **"Tammurriata e Pizzica"**



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The leaving



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Some statistics



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PARTICIPANTS BY NATIONALITY

Argentina	2	Italy	15
Austria	9	Jamaica	4
Colombia	1	Kenya	1
Croatia	4	Luxembourg	1
Czech	3	Netherlands	9
Denmark	1	Norway	8
Estonia	1	Portugal	5
Finland	15	Slovenia	4
France	8	Sweden	33
Germany	38	Switzerland	2
Ghana	2	Turkey	2
Great Britain	11	U.S.A.	25
Greece	3		
Hungary	1		
India	5		
Israel	7		
		TOTAL.....	220

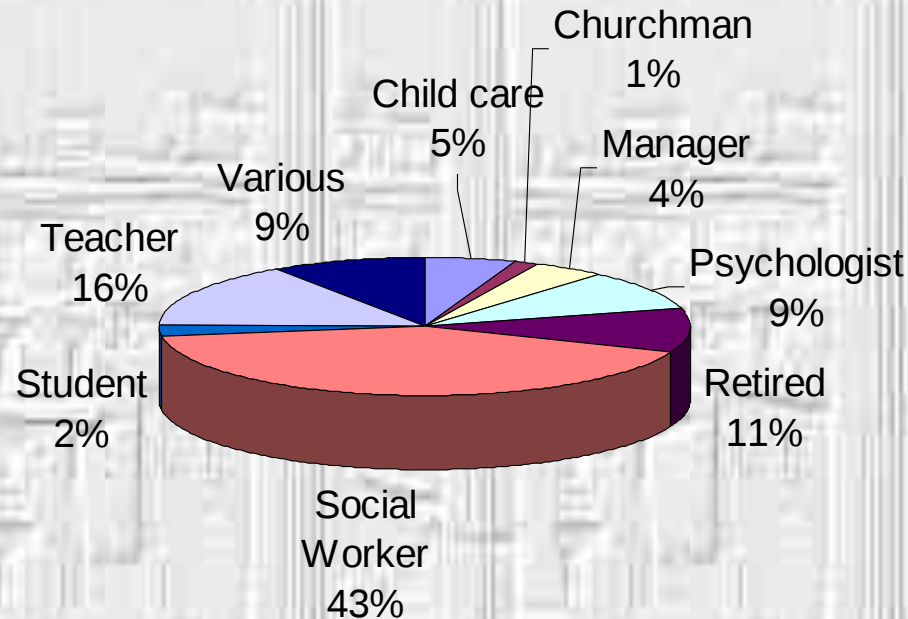


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Participants by profession



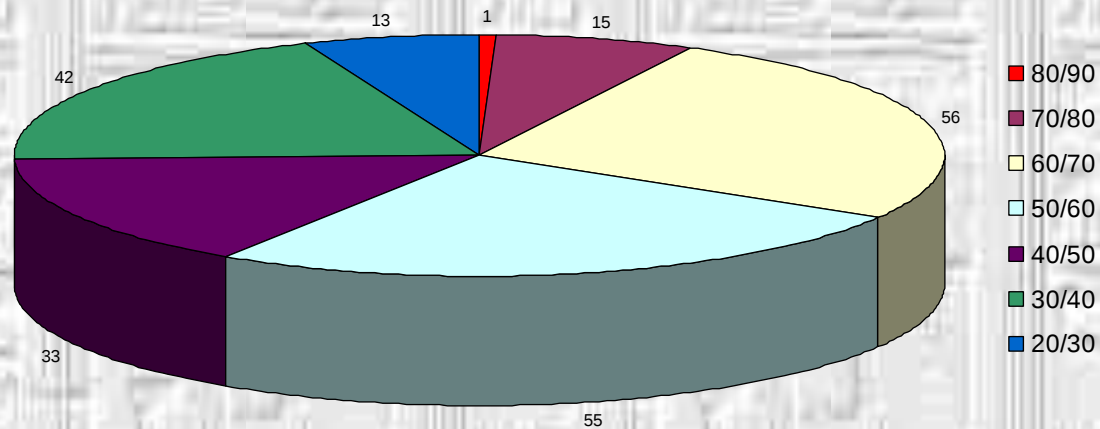


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Participants by age





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Thank to all participants