



*Report 1*

April 11, 2007

***On the “Life” in the German Operations Research Society  
GOR – a Partner of ORST***

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Some weeks ago, two national OR Societies, the one of Turkey (*ORST*) and the one of Germany (*GOR*), signed an *Agreement about Collaboration*. In the years before, *GOR* already made such a kind of collaboration and friendship with national OR societies of other countries such as Austria, the Netherlands, Switzerland and Hungary. All these countries are neighbouring to Germany, are lying in Middle Europe. That now the agreement became signed with Turkey, a country more far in distance from Germany, is for sure an expression of the *closeness* of both nations and among their scientists. It was this special feeling and relationship that made this new partnership become true. A special thank to the present and previous President of *ORST*, *Prof. Dr. Refik Güllü* and *Prof. Dr. Haluk Süral*, respectively, and to the present and previous President of *GOR*, *Prof. Dr. Thomas St. Spengler* and *Prof. Dr. Gerhard Waescher*, respectively, for their appreciation and support of this special coming together. Indeed, there is a cordiality given now that opens the door to practical improvements in the collaboration and in future chances for young people. Among of them, the content of the agreement says - simply speaking - that with respect to conferences and publications each society grants the same benefits to the members of the partner society which are granted to its own members (reduced rates, in particular). *GOR* organizes all sorts of conferences and meetings for its members, e.g., apart from our annual international OR conference, *GOR* also organizes an annual tutorial, and also each of our 13 working groups usually meet at least once a year. The German colleagues trust that these meetings might be a rather attractive aspect of the proposed partnership for the members of *ORST*, too. To each of those meetings, members of *ORST* would get access for free (working group meetings) or at significantly reduced rates (annual conferences, tutorials; 80-100€ reduction from the regular rate for non-members of *GOR*). Recently, *GOR* has also come up with an arrangement with Springer-Verlag, which enables *GOR* to offer subscriptions of *GOR*'s scientific journals, *Operations Research Spectrum (ORS)* and *Mathematical Methods of Operations Research (MMOR)*, to individual members of our partner societies at rates that *GOR* charges to its own members (currently 55€ per year each).

This is just a small section of the chances given; finally, it will be the people, the Turkish and the German ones, experienced and young ones from both countries, who give their “life”- experience, vision and spirit - to the letters of this agreement, to the Turkish-German collaboration. May many ones and the development of the two countries as well, benefit from this opportunity that could indeed become a fortunate moment in

the life of both societies, of both nations. GOR asked me to serve as a representative of the German OR Society in the relation with OSRT, with our dear Turkish friends, with You!

This means a great honour for me. Some of you may know me: I am working at the Institute of Applied Mathematics of Middle East Technical University in Ankara where I am staying now since more than 4 years. For the Turkish people and in relation with my local colleagues, with GOR, EURO and different EURO Working Groups and at different occasions, I try to serve as well as I can. And I am Your student!

*GOR* is the German OR Society; actually, GOR abbreviates *Gesellschaft für Operations Research e.V.*. *OR-News* is the bulletin of GOR that appears 3-4 times in a year. It contains information of any facet of the scientific and social life in the German, but also the European and international OR. There are small articles about a special topic from operations research, often related with its modern applications, its life in practice, there are reports about scientific events conducted with GOR endorsed: Working Group Meetings, Annual Conferences, the EURO-k conferences, EURO Summer or Winter Institutes, EURO Mini Conferences, various scientific events of IFORS and INFORMS, but also forthcoming meetings of all formats announced. There are Calls for Papers to meetings and special issues of journals, Calls for Noniminations of different kinds, reports about publications, and interviews. May I please mention that one of these interviews was made by G. Waescher with me in 2005 and entitled *Was hat Sie eigentlich nach Ankara „verschlagen“*, *Herr Weber?*, freely translated: *What made you leave to Turkey, Mr. Weber?*, *OR-News* 23 (2005) 71-74. At that time already, I felt that this special honour of becoming interviewed actually was an honouring of the Turkish colleagues, the Turkish people, by their German colleagues, by the German people.

As a matter of fact, the *OR-News* are written in German language almost completely. Some of you may know German, other ones may more or less guess what is being meant in a German text (basic English and German are resembling each other). If you might be interested in a photocopy of the present or any of the forthcoming issues of this bulletin, please let me know and send to me your postal address. I will happy to provide you with a copy!

In case of your kind interest being given, I will write to you every about 8-12 weeks. These reports should not become too long – we all are facing so many data and news already, it is hard to study and perceive them all. So my reports shall focus on some essentials and, what is more, may try making some appetite for more, for a blooming collaboration and friendship in the future.

For today I conclude with some notes:

- The new president of GOR is *Prof. Dr. Thomas Stefan Spengler* from TU Braunschweig (Braunschweig University of Technology), Institut für Wirtschaftswissenschaften, Lehrstuhl für BWL, insbesondere (especially), Produktion und Logistik, Katharinenstrasse 3, 38106 Braunschweig, Germany; e-mail: [t.spengler@tu-bs.de](mailto:t.spengler@tu-bs.de),

and there will be

- *OR 2007 - International Annual Scientific Conference* of the German Operations Research Society (GOR), with a special topic (tutorial) “Operations Research in the Service Industry”, September 5-7, 2007, Saarland University, Saarbrücken; <http://www.or2007.de/>,

where we all are warmly welcome. Certainly, there will be many personal meetings and valuable minutes shared between Turkish and German colleagues at the conference EURO XXII 2007, but also at INFORMS International 2007.

In Germany and at many places all over the world, the contributions given by the Turkish OR community have been gratefully acknowledged, they became a “brand label” and a core element of the success of various events and enterprises.

If I could do anything for you and your friends or, more importantly, GOR could do, please do not hesitate to contact me!

For today I remain,  
with my best wishes,  
heartfelt regards,  
yours sincerely,

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