

Get on Stage!

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Not a Rockstar

Rowdy Rabouw

Born and raised in Gouda, The Netherlands

Freelance web and app developer

Senior engineer at Nationale-Nederlanden

Lead developer Nationale-Nederlanden Pension App

Progress Developer Expert for Nativescript

@rowdyrabouw

❤️ superhero movies



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“ Most people prefer death. ”

Why?

- **personal growth**
- **learn new stuff**
- **give back to the community**
- **meet people**
- **go to places you never thought you would visit**





Stockholm

Estonia

Latvia

Lithuania

Vilnius

Minsk

Belarus

Poland

Warsaw

Germany

Munich

France

Paris

Ukraine

Kyiv

Romania

Bucharest

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Sarajevo

Serbia

Sofia

Moldova

Chisinau

Hungary

Budapest

Austria

Vienna

Slovakia

Czechia

Prague

Switzerland

Milan

Luxembourg

Belgium

Brussels

Cologne

Netherlands

Amsterdam

Antwerp

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Frankfurt

Hamburg

Copenhagen

Denmark

Oslo

Riga

Tallinn

Helsinki

St Petersburg

Санкт-Петербург

Edinburgh

United Kingdom

Isle of Man

Manchester

Liverpool

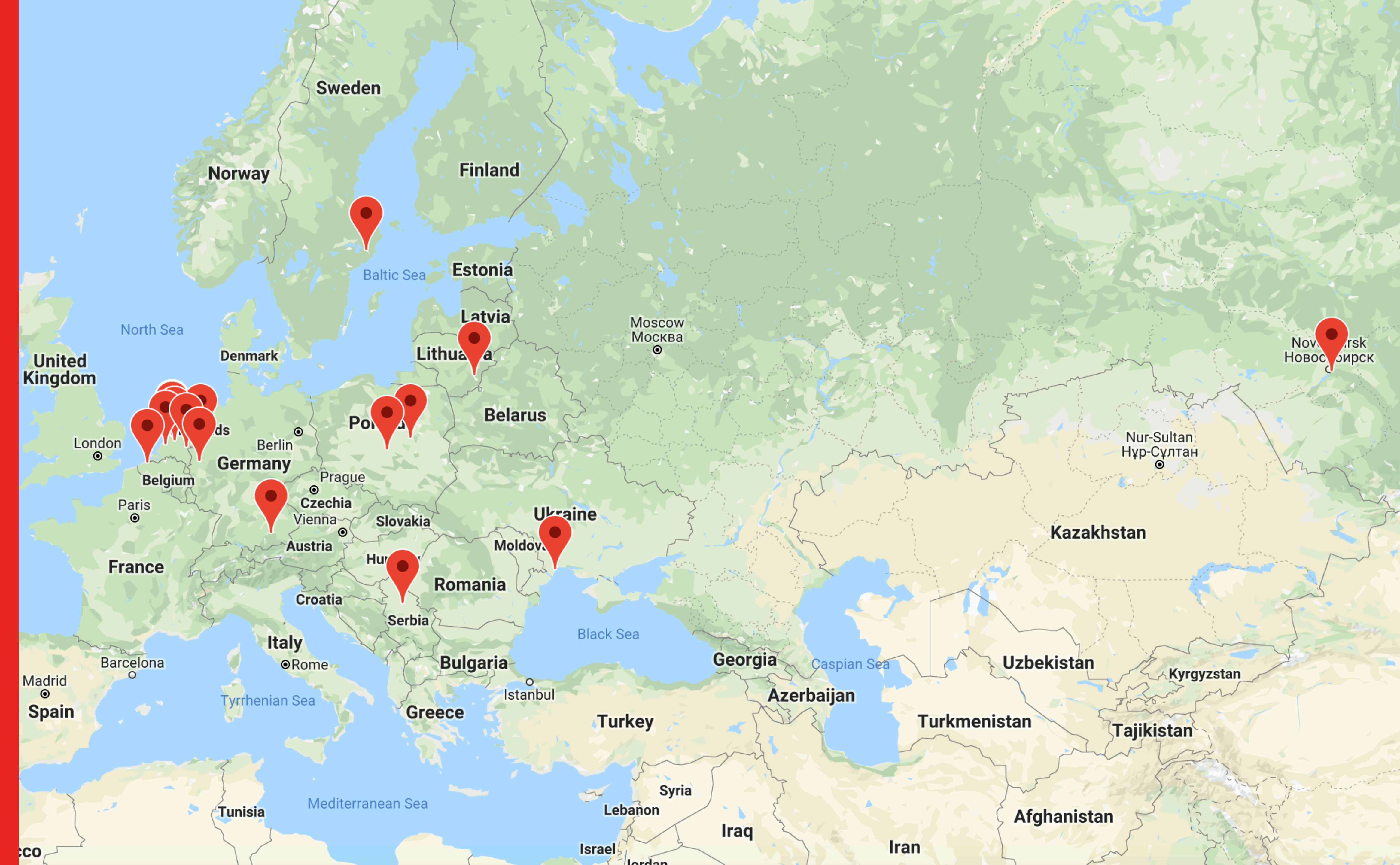
Dublin

Ireland

London

Bay of Biscay

Black



Imposter Syndrome

A psychological pattern in which an individual doubts his or her accomplishments and has a persistent fear of being exposed as a "fraud".

- Have passion for the subject
- Give your unique perspective
- Know a little bit more than average, you don't have to be an expert

Capgras delusion

A psychiatric disorder in which a person holds a delusion that a friend, spouse, parent, or other close family member (or pet) has been replaced by an identical impostor.

Topic

“ I have nothing interesting to say! ”

Topic

- **personal experience**
- **share you process**
- **failures or bottlenecks**
- **something you're not good at or want to learn**
- **something populair**
- **upcoming technologies**

Call for Papers

Call for Papers

Conference organizers looking for interesting talks that fit their objective, theme and audience.

Call for Papers

Multi-track	Single-track
variety of subjects	specific theme
room to experiment	risk-averse
great place for first-timers	experience / big names
people specifically choose you	no choice
Call for Papers	no Call for Papers or limited

Call for Papers

Resources

- **Twitter list of conferences**
- **SeeCFP**
- **CFP Land**
- **Confs.tech**
- **PaperCall**
- **Developer Avocados 🥑 Weekly (newsletter)**

Call for Papers

Compensation

- **Conference ticket**
- **Flights (or other transportation)**
- **Hotel**
- **Transfers**
- **Speaker dinner or gift**
- **A fee for speaking**

Call for Papers

Compensation requested



Call for Papers

Compensation offered





Brian Sullivan

4 h · Modifié

+ Suivre

As a conference organizer, I continue to be amazed at how many people ask for airfare and hotel accomodations for a 50-minute talk (newbies and professionals alike).

Here is some advice from a conference organizer and industry speaker:

1. Don't ask us for travel fees unless you are a keynote
2. Do thank us for being selected as a speaker
3. Don't tell us we are cheap because of our travel policy
4. Do attend as much of the conference, as possible
5. Don't change your talk after being accepted

messages

9. Don't tell us you have a special message (we all do)

10. Do understand when organizers lose patience

It is a privelege to speak at a conference. You should be humbled and honored by it. Check your ego at the door.

Never forget, we have other speakers that will pay for the travel, work with organizers, craft their message, share their stories, express their gratitude, and show up.

I prefer to work with flexible, grateful, humble people, anyway. Just some advise from an industry speaker and conference organizer.

[#leadership](#) [#design](#) [#conferences](#) [#ego](#)



Stéphanie Walter

@WalterStephanie



"Be humble it's a privilege to talk to a conference so pay for your own travel and hotel and check your ego at the door".

Wow. The level of bullshit here is amazing.

[linkedin.com/feed/update/ur...](https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/ur...)

♡ 4,219 10:32 PM - May 30, 2019

Call for Papers

Speaker support

- **actively looking for first-timers**
- **available for questions**
- **coaching**
- **review of slides**

Call for Papers

Reputation

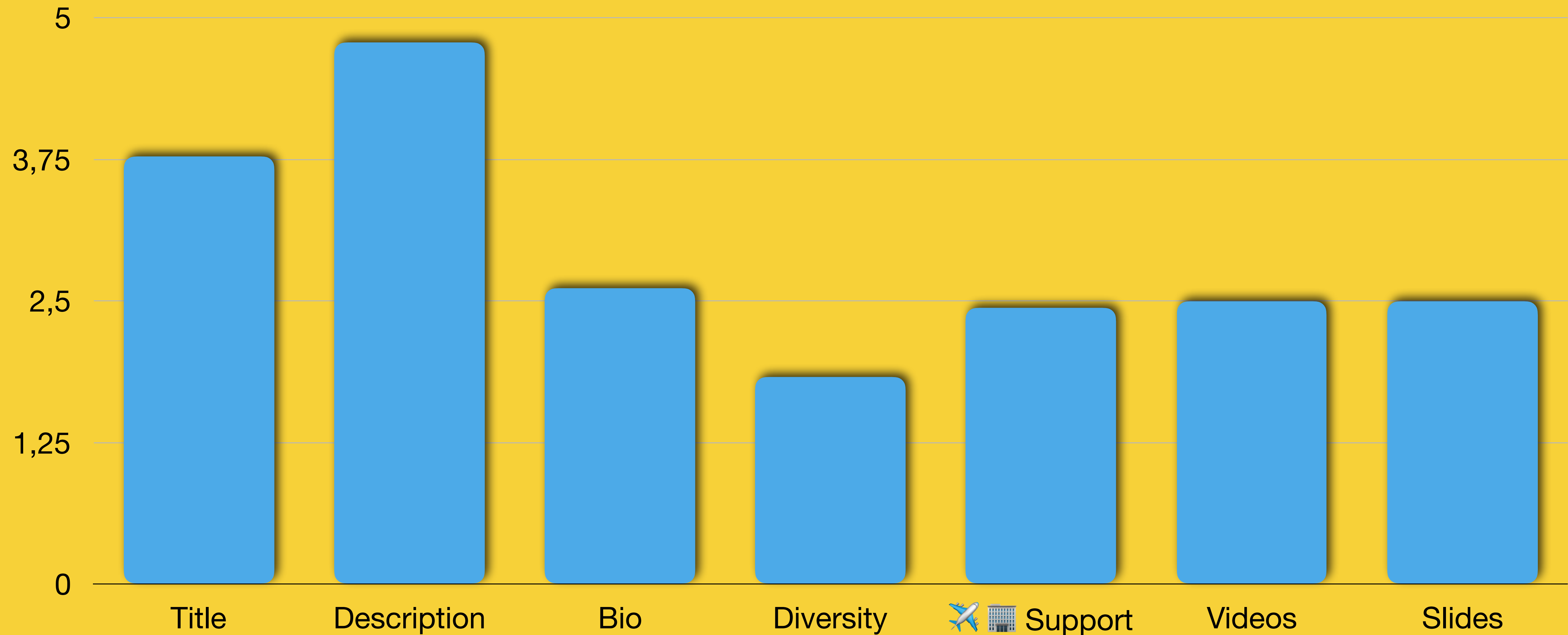
- **Code of Conduct**
- **Diversity**
- **Ask previous speakers**
- **Google them!**

Call for Papers

Talk proposal

- **Title**
- **Abstract**
- **Bio**
- **Headshot**
- **Videos or slides of previous talks**

Call for Papers



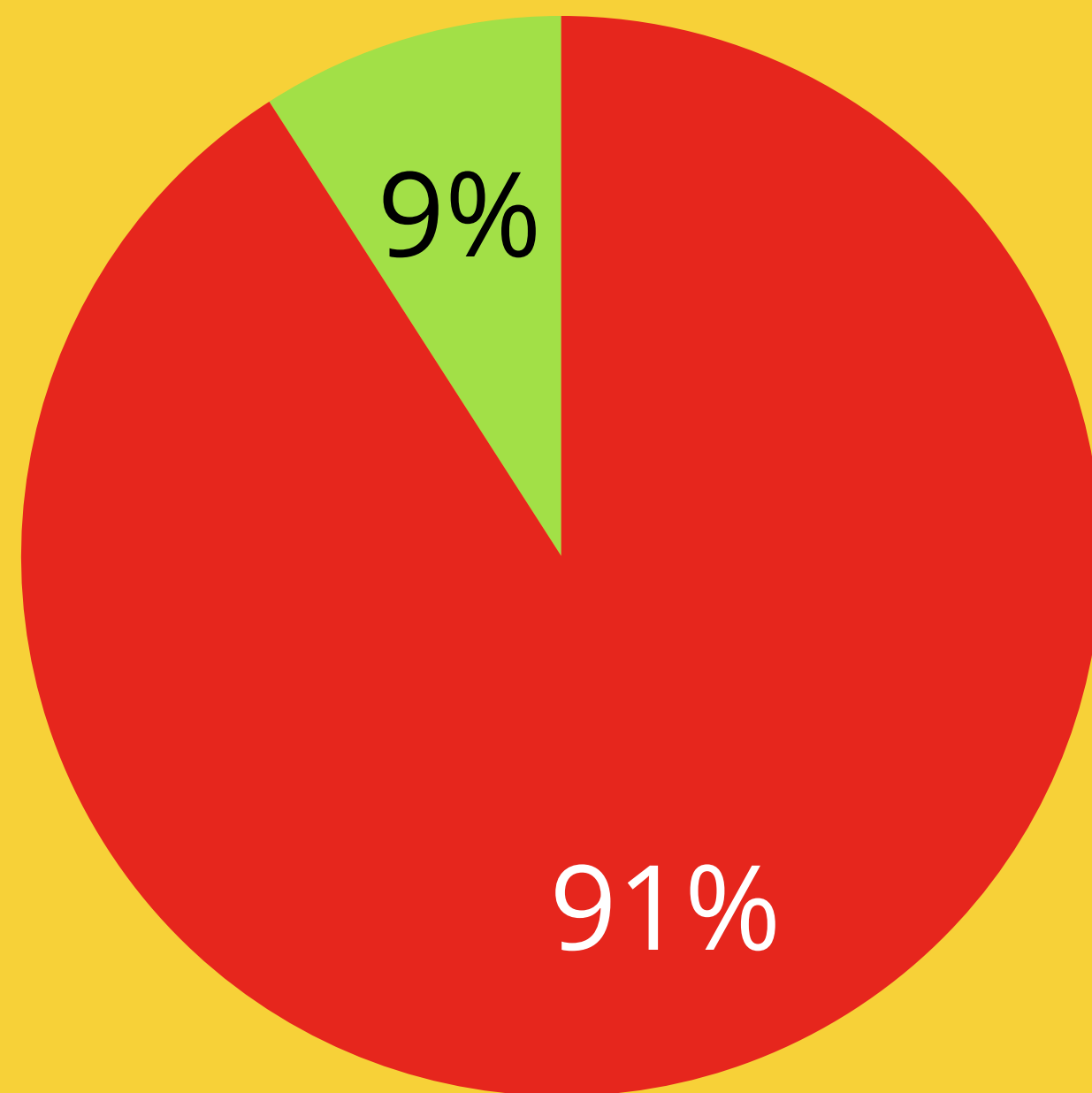
Call for Papers

Rejections

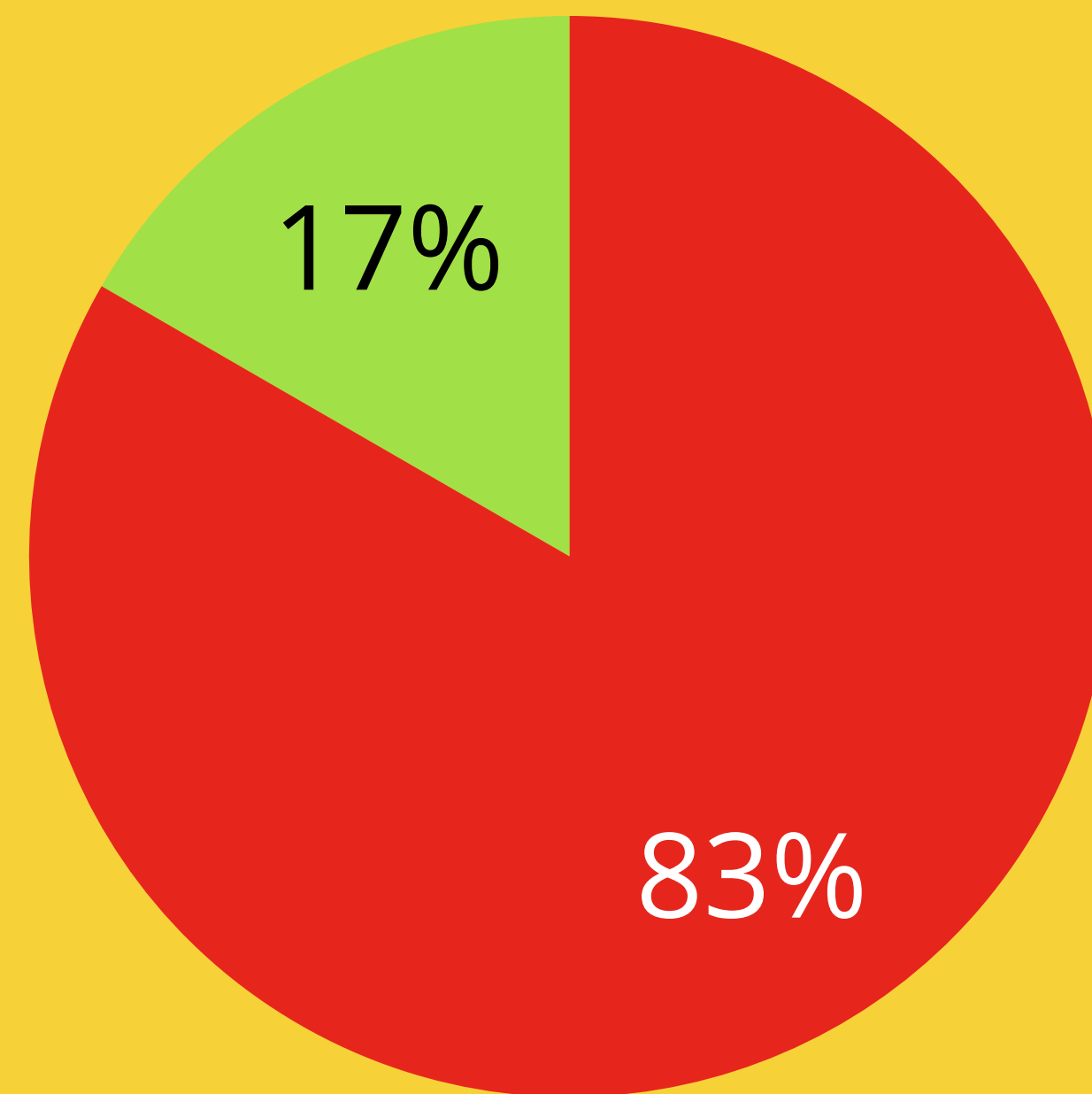
- **We all get them**
- **Try to find out why**
- **Adapt for future submissions**

Call for Papers

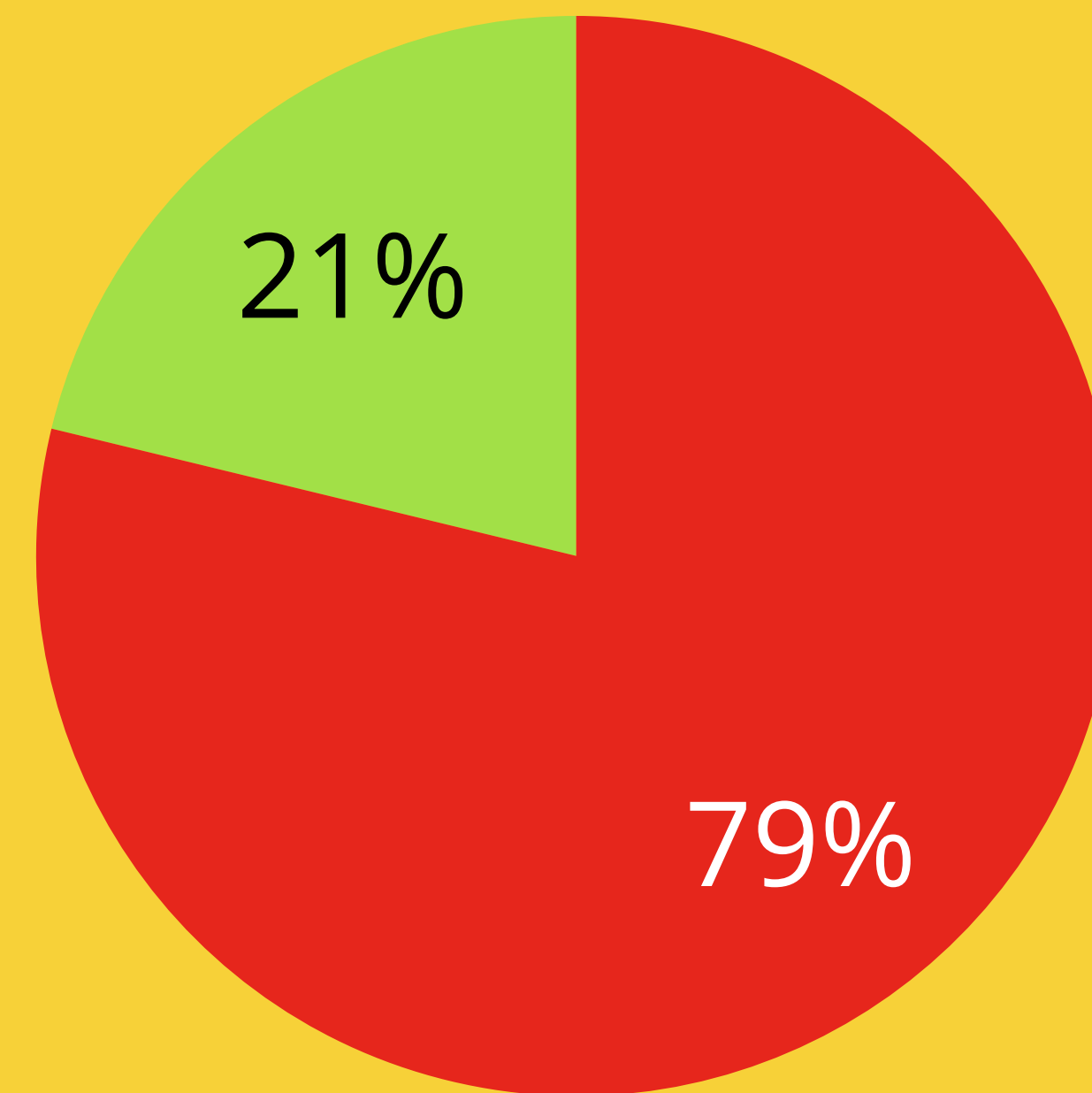
2017



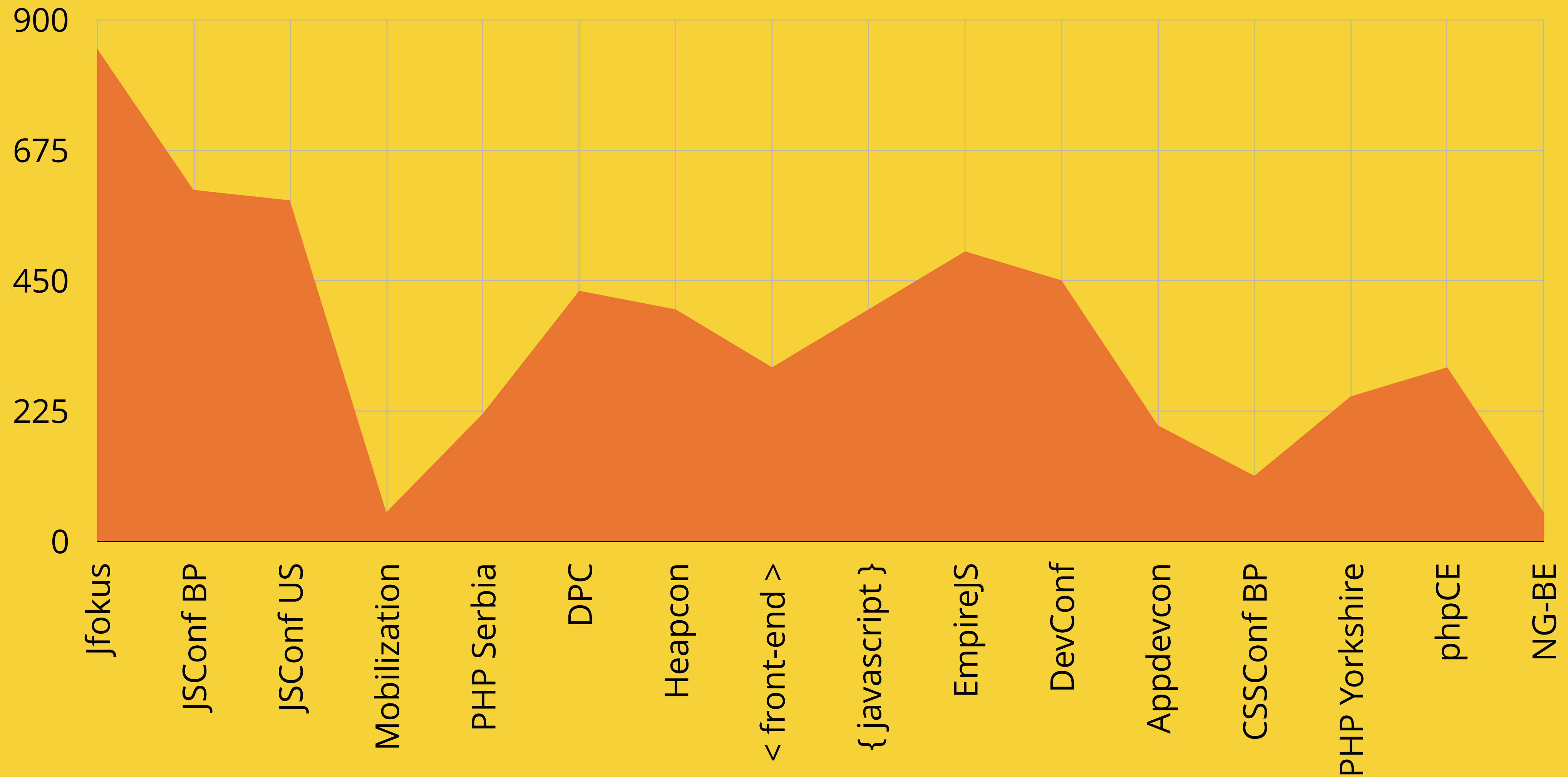
2018



2019



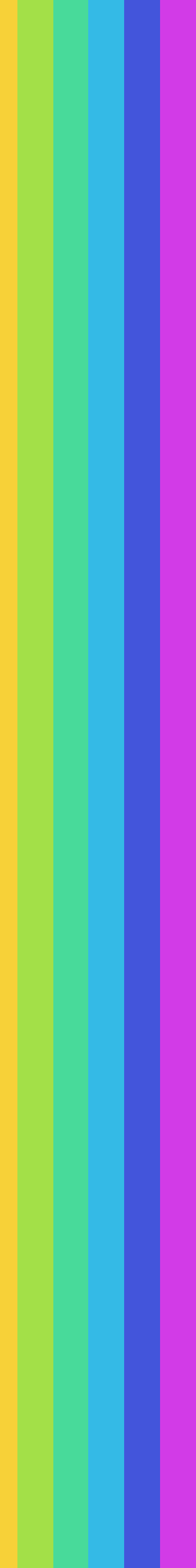
Call for Papers



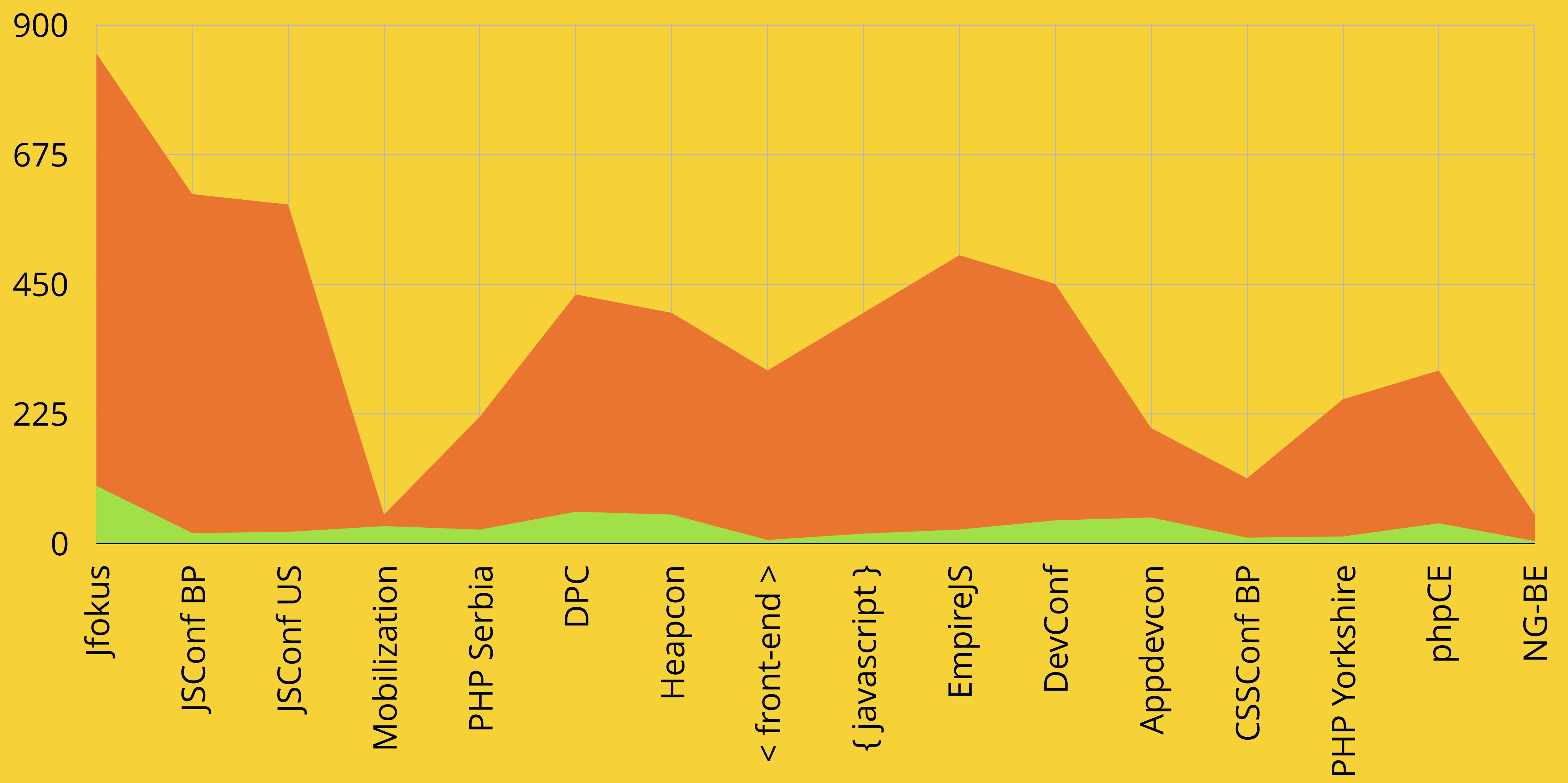
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Call for Papers



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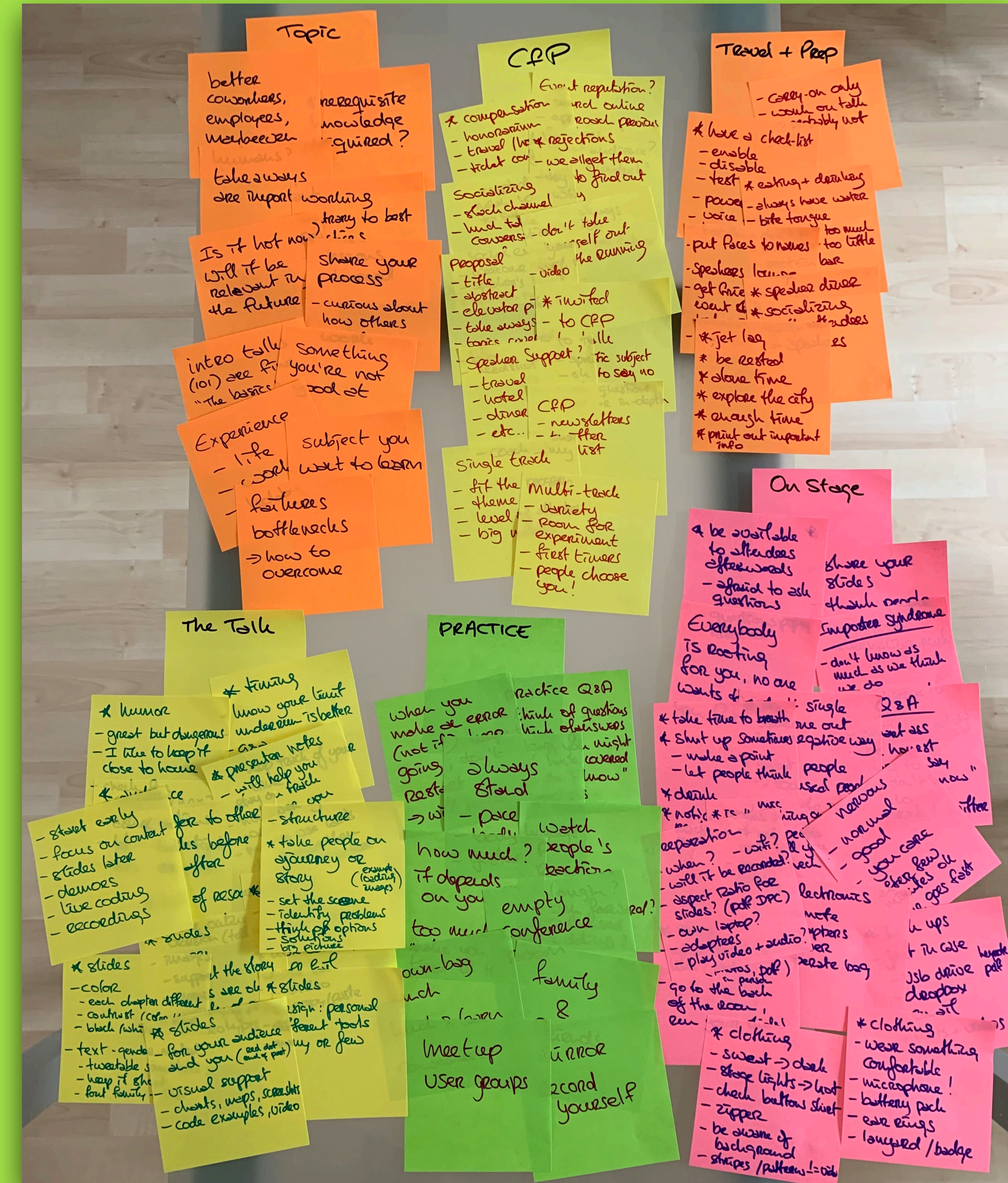
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The Talk

The Talk

- Start early
- Research
- Focus on content first
- Slides later
- Demos
- Live coding
- Recordings



The Talk

Structure

- **Natural flow**
- **Set the scene**
- **Identify problems**
- **Possible solutions**

The Talk

Demos

- **Short and relevant**
- **Can fail**
- **Don't rely on internet access**
- **Have back-up videos if possible**
- **Or demo with videos**

The Talk

Live coding

- **Short and relevant**
- **Will fail**
- **Don't rely on internet access**
- **Code snippets**
- **Have back-up videos**
- **Or "live" code with videos**



The Talk

Slides

- **Very personal**
- **For your audience and you**
- **Simple or exuberant**
- **Special attention for code examples**
- **How many?**

The Talk

Slides: color

- **Good contrast**
- **Background color**

The Talk

Slides: text

- **Short**
- **Tweetable sound bites**
- **Readable**
 - large font size
 - Sans serif font

AaBbCc

AaBbCc

AaBbCc

The Talk

Slides: images

- **Support the story**
- **Variety of people**
- **Avoid stereotypes**
- **Animated GIFs and memes are ok**



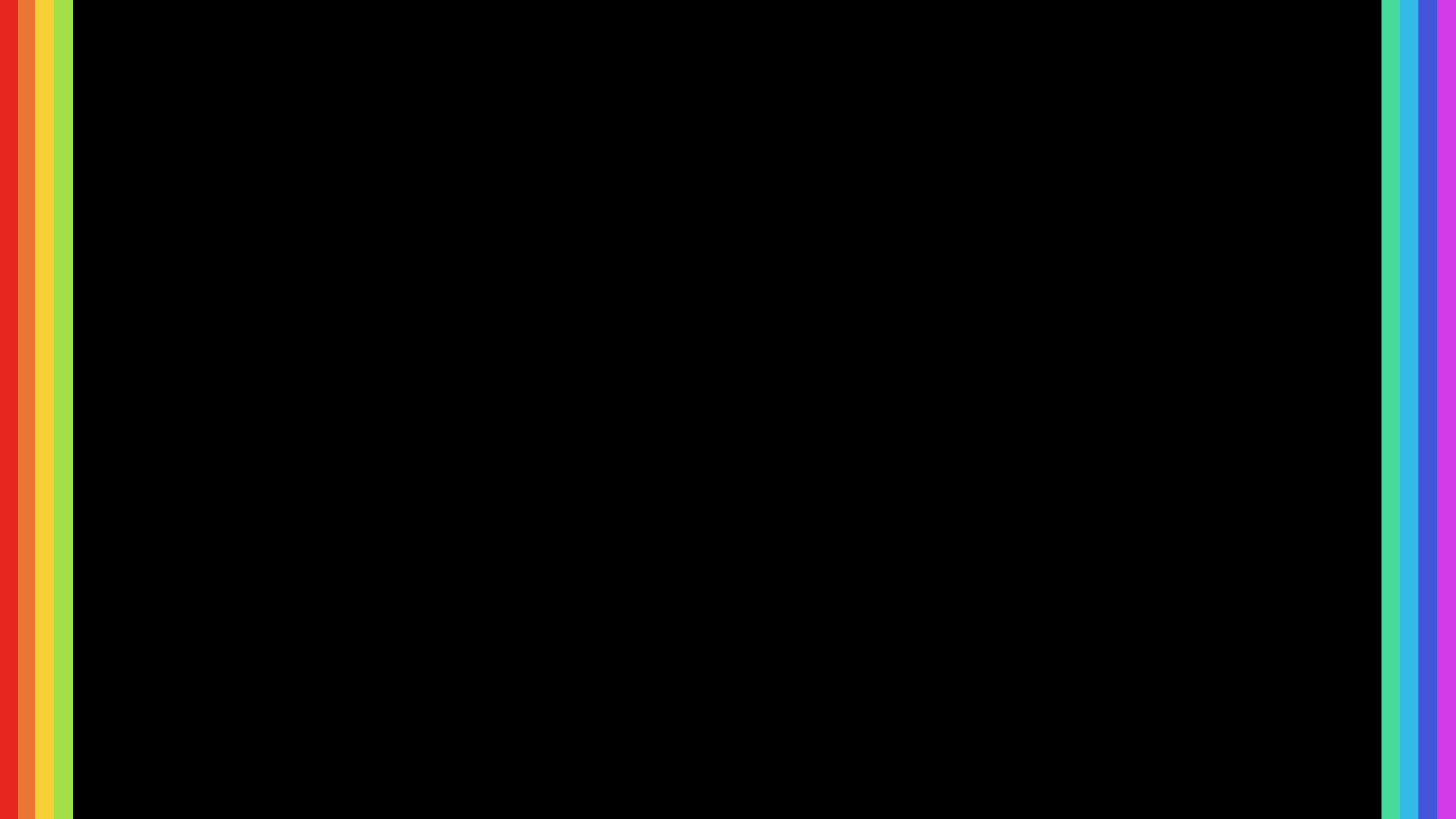
I HATE

CAT MEMES

The Talk

Slides: humor

- **Great but dangerous**
- **It's not stand-up comedy**
- **I like to make fun of myself**



The Talk

Slides: tooling

- **Powerpoint**
- **Keynote**
- **Google Slides**
- **Deckset**
- **Reveal.js**
- **Prezi**

The Talk

- **Share a list of resources**
- **Refer to other talks before or after yours**

Practice

Practice

- **Mirror**
- **Record yourself**
- **Family & friends**
- **Empty conference room**
- **Lunch & learn with co-workers**
- **User group meet-up**

Practice

- **Stand up for rehearsals**
- **Be aware of your**
 - **pace**
 - **body language**
 - **gestures**
- **Continue after errors**

Practice

- **Watch people's reactions**
 - **laugh / smiling**
 - **lean forward**
 - **nodding**
 - **nodding off**

Travel & Preparation

Travel

- **Have a checklist**
- **Carry-on only**
- **Work on talk? Probably not.**
- **Relax, be fit**
- **Have some alone time**
- **Explore the city**

Preparation

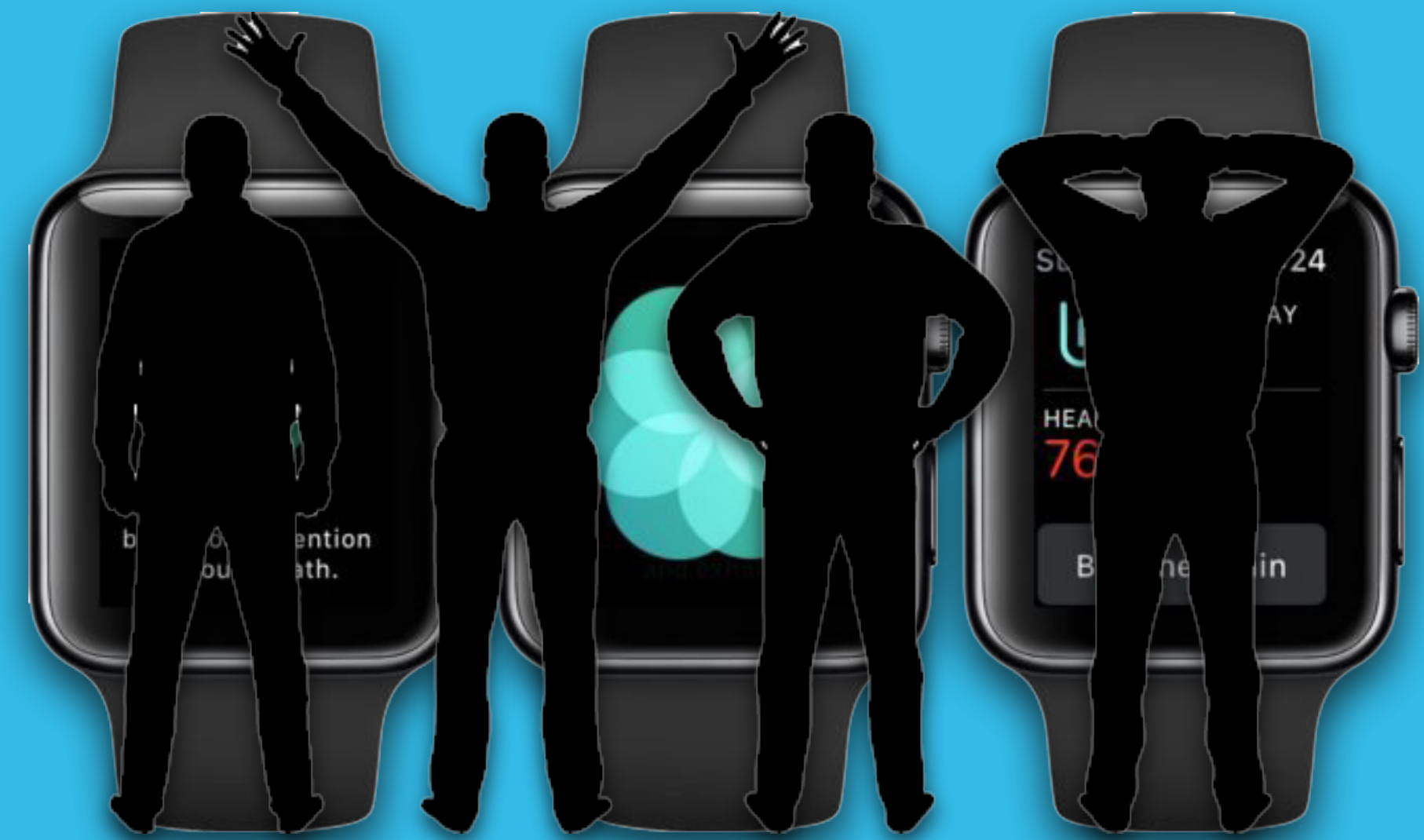
- **When and where is your talk?**
- **What clothes to wear?**
- **Is WiFi available and stable?**
- **Is your aspect ratio correct?**
- **Explore the room**
- **Test your slides, videos, audio**
- **Befriend the AV technicians**

Preparation

- **Have a checklist**
- **Don't eat too much**
- **Don't eat too little**
- **Have an energy bar at hand**
- **Always have water nearby**
- **Or bite your tongue**

Preparation

- **Power posing**
- **Voice exercises**
- **Breathing exercises**
- **Whatever works for you!**





On Stage



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“ Difficulty sleeping on the night before, loss of appetite, knots in my stomach, excessive yawning right before my talk. ”

Nadieh Bremer

“ Loss of appetite, inability to focus. ”

Harry Roberts

“ The night before I honestly believe that people will hate my talk and will throw rotten tomatoes at me. ”

Vasilis van Gemert

**“ Nauseous, raised heart beat,
urge to go to the toilet, feeling
that I will screw up something. ”**

Paul Verbeek-Mast

“ Feeling I'm not ready, fear I will mess up, need to improve the slides until the very end, diarrhea, sweating. ”

Anonymous

On Stage

- **Nervousness**
 - **normal**
 - **shows you care**
 - **focus on your talk and audience**
 - **and breathe**

“ Is this thing on? ”



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On Stage

- **Take time to breathe**
- **Shut up!**
- **Drink**
- **Look at the audience**
 - **Don't single someone out**
 - **Quiet people are focused people**
 - **Do people leave the room?**

On Stage

- **Timing**
 - **Know your limit!**
 - **Underrunning is better**
 - **Keep track of your time**

**“ Once, I thought my slot was 40 mins
when it was 20 mins. ”**

Radoslav Stankov

**“ I find out this 5 min before the end.
I was wrapping up the intro. ”**

Radoslav Stankov

“ All kinds of demos didn't work because I forgot to test them before the talk. ”

Vasilis van Gemert

“ I once gave a talk where no joke landed and I just wanted to crawl under a rock. ”

Stephen Hay

“Just 4 people in a room, because all people went to the next track to listen to the famous speaker.”

Vitalii Bobrov

“ Hardware demos completely failing during a talk. ”

Niels Leenheer

“ I got so nervous that I was barely able to write on my coding demo. Made 5 typos in a single world. ”

Alex Vakrilov

“ I had to run *npm install* ... ”

Juho Vepsäläinen

On Stage



Harry Roberts 

@csswizardry



I just had an actual blackout on stage at [@speaktheweb](#).
Thanks to who ever caught me a helped me offstage.
Apologies to the attendees.

♡ 5 9:53 PM - Jul 24, 2013





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You Rockstar!

You Rockstar!

- **Share your slides**
- **Be available for attendees**
- **Thank people**
- **Enjoy the adrenaline rush!**

A man with a beard and dark hair, wearing a light-colored long-sleeved shirt and dark pants, is performing on stage. He is leaning forward with his mouth wide open in a shout or scream. The background is dark with blue and pink lighting. On the left side of the image, there is a vertical bar with a rainbow gradient. The text "Thank you!" is written in large white letters in the top left corner.

Thank you!

@rowdyrabout

<http://bit.ly/wcgetonstage>