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- Thank You to our MecaNano Leaders!

**Reminders**
**Upcoming MecaNano and related events**

- MSE 2026 Darmstadt 29 Sept. – 1. Oct. More info [here](#)! In particular, have a look at MSE Symposium C05!
- ECI 2026 (Nanomechanical Testing in Materials Research and Development IX) 4-9 Oct. 2026 in Rhodes, Greece. More details [here](#)!
- Save the date: MecaNano 5th General Meeting – Prague, 2–4 June 2027 .

**Job offers:** Check out postings on the [MecaNano website](#)! (You first need to [register](#)).

## Summer School 2026

The Summer School 2026, held at CNRS IESC in Corsica, France, from 6–12 September, brought together 64 participants and 11 trainers for a week of engaging talks and activities. Featuring top experts discussing a variety of topics (details available at <https://mecanano-yris26.sciencesconf.org/>), the event offered both intellectual stimulation and opportunities for networking, including beachside gatherings and visits to the nearby town. Attendees enjoyed a memorable hike, long or short, depending on preference, to a medieval tower with stunning sea views, once used to guard against pirates. An impromptu session on Agentic AI, led by Erik Bitzek near the beach, added a dynamic touch to the program. The local dog, Junior, became a beloved presence, often joining meals and sneaking eclairs when no one was looking. Recordings of the teaching sessions are available [here](#). They will also soon be available on the MecaNano website (for registered members only), together with the presentation slides. This event marked the conclusion of the official MecaNano Cost Action, but the network will continue informally, with the next general meeting planned for June 2027.



MecaNano's third summer school, Corsica, 2026

## Continuing MecaNano

Due to popular demand, the MecaNano network will continue its activities, even without EU COST Action funding, thanks to the dedication of a steering committee. If you wish to stay informed about future MecaNano events, no action is required; however, if you'd like to opt out, simply email "unsubscribe" to [info@mecanano.com](mailto:info@mecanano.com). The website, [www.mecanano.com](http://www.mecanano.com), will remain active, offering valuable resources in its repository for subscribed members, including member directory ([opt in here](#)), job postings ([via a dedicated form](#)), and other useful content. Plans for the

next general meeting are already underway, with details to be shared soon. Updates about events and opportunities will be communicated through email, newsletters, LinkedIn, and the website, so be sure to stay connected to the network!

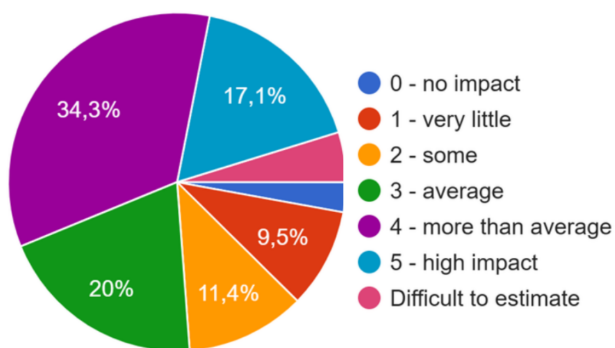
**Mark your calendars!** The next MecaNano General Meeting (GM) will be hosted by the Czech Technical University in Prague, 2-4 June 2027 – with a small fee and no travel funding from MecaNano.

## MecaNano's impact

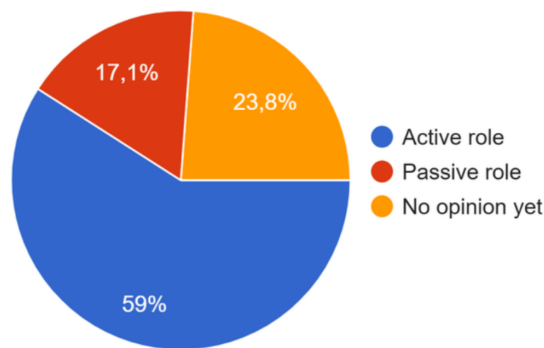
A recent survey of the MecaNano community, including 107 responses and an additional 41 from a representative panel, highlighted the network's significant impact and strong support for its continuation beyond the COST grant period. Over 50% of respondents reported that MecaNano had a more-than-average influence on their scientific careers, while 97% emphasized the importance of sustaining the community, with nearly 60% expressing interest in taking an active role in its future. To ensure MecaNano's longevity, three key measures were identified: organizing in-person events, maintaining a presence at conferences, and coordinating for large-scale EU project applications.

Members are encouraged to continue acknowledging MecaNano in their papers and presentations, especially if the network was instrumental in their work—whether through finding collaborators, attending webinars, or utilizing tutorials in the MecaNano Repository. A suggested statement is: *The article is based upon work from COST Action CA21121 MecaNano, supported by COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology)*. Including this acknowledgment is vital for making MecaNano's success visible. Open-access papers citing MecaNano can be sent to [info@mecanano.com](mailto:info@mecanano.com) for inclusion in the website repository, helping to further showcase the network's contributions to the scientific community.

**To which extent has your participation in MecaNano had an impact on your scientific career ?**  
(105 answers)



**If MecaNano were to continue, how do you see your role?**  
(105 answers)



**Figure 1.** Results of the recent MecaNano survey on its impact and continuation

## Thank You to our MecaNano Leaders!

A heartfelt thank you goes out to the incredible leaders who made MecaNano such a resounding success. Without the constant management and support of our three core leaders—Benoit Merle, Marie-Stéphane Colla, and Marc Legros—our achievements would not have been possible. We similarly extend our deepest gratitude to the Working Group (WG) leaders whose ideas and dedication ensured accessible programs for all members: WG1 Size Effects (Diletta Giuntini, Dan Mordehai, Daniel Kiener), WG2 Experimental & Simulation Challenges (Verena Maier-Kiener, Julien Guenole, Wiktor Bednarczyk), WG3 Research Data Management (Ulrich Kerzel, Volker Hofmann, Abril Azocar Guzman), WG4 Machine Learning (Peter Ispanovity, Edoardo Rossi, Claus Trost, Flavio Abreu Araujo, Stefan Sandfeld), and WG5 Communications (Tamara Aleksandrov, Solene Dassonneville, Gabrielle Tiphene, Javier

Dominguez-Gutierrez, Aleksija Djuric, Megan Cordill). Special thanks also go to the organizers of our general meetings (Madrid, Vienna, Krakow, Rome), summer schools (Rome, Kassel, Cargese), and workshops (Aachen, Brussels, Budapest, Toulouse). Through their efforts, MecaNano supported about 25 Short Term Scientific Missions (STSM), 16 Integrated Target Country (ITC) grants, 26 Young Researcher and Innovator (YRI) grants, and 12 Virtual Mobility grants, fostering collaboration and growth across a network of over 600 members spanning 48 countries, including 39 COST countries and 5 international partners (Tunisia, Azerbaijan, Kosovo, USA, and Taiwan). Finally, thank you to all members for your engagement and contributions, which have been the cornerstone of MecaNano's success!



**Figure 2.** Benoît Merle, Marie-Stéphane Colla, and Marc Legros (from right to left), the MecaNano's core leaders.