



2nd RIBMINS Scientific Conference
“Towards the Future of Meat Safety Assurance”
Córdoba 7th-8th of April 2022

A survey for the assessment of demographics and training needs of official veterinarians in Europe

Eduarda Gomes-Neves, Margarida F. Cardoso, Thomai Lazou, Brigita Hengl, Silvia Bonardi, Claudia Guldiman, Bojan Blagojevic, Sophia Johler

7th of April 2022

Background

Official veterinarians (OV's) are veterinarians performing official controls for the national authorities

- New official controls regulations
- Risk-based meat inspection
- Risks managers (HEIs, FCI)
- Ongoing implementation of modernized meat safety assurance system

Objectives

To characterize European OV's in terms of:

- Demographics
- Academic qualification, specialization, previous experience and specific training
- Daily work, experience, establishment, % time
- Confidence in Visual & Risk-based Meat Inspection
- Continuing education & Training activities and topics

Methods

- Questionnaire design
- Target audience: OV's working in food control in Europe
- Ethics Committee approval: ICBAS-University of Porto, Portugal
- Pilot study anonymous online form (Google forms)
- 17 languages: Albanian, Bosnian, Bulgarian, Croatian, English, French, German, Greek, Italian, North Macedonian, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Serbian, Slovenian, Spanish, Turkish

The questionnaire – 8 groups of questions

Demographic data	Qualification data	Work experience	Daily Work
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Country of work• Nationality• Gender• Year of Birth	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Year of the degree Vet Med• Highest academic degree• Specialization• Previous experience• Specific Training• Specific Exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Years of experience as OV• Type of Establishment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• %Time OV tasks• Team/Alone• Confidence in VMI• Confidence in RBMI

The questionnaire – 8 groups of questions

Employment situation	Continuing education	Training topics	Final remarks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current employer • Type of contract • Satisfaction in the employment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frequency of training • Entity responsible for training • Satisfaction with training activities • Experience as a trainer • Preferred methodology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Already approached in training • Future training activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open to the participant

Methods**Training topics**

- New Legislation on Official Controls
- Visual Inspection
- Food Chain Information (FCI)
- Risk-based Meat Inspection
- Animal Welfare (transport, slaughter)
- Harmonized Epidemiological Indicators (HEIs)
- Meat Safety Assurance System (MSAS)
- Zoonotic and emerging diseases
- Chemical Hazards
- Other_____

Methods – type of questions

d) Did you have a specific training to become an OV in the country where you work? *

- Yes
- No

d.1) If you had specific training to become an OV which entity was responsible for it?

- University
- National Veterinary Authority
- other

d) Risk-based meat inspection – Do you feel confident that you have the resources to support it (e.g. Food Chain Information)? Please classify from (1) to (5)

- | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | |
| Not at all confident | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | Extremely confident |

a) How many years of experience as an OV do you have? (numbers) *

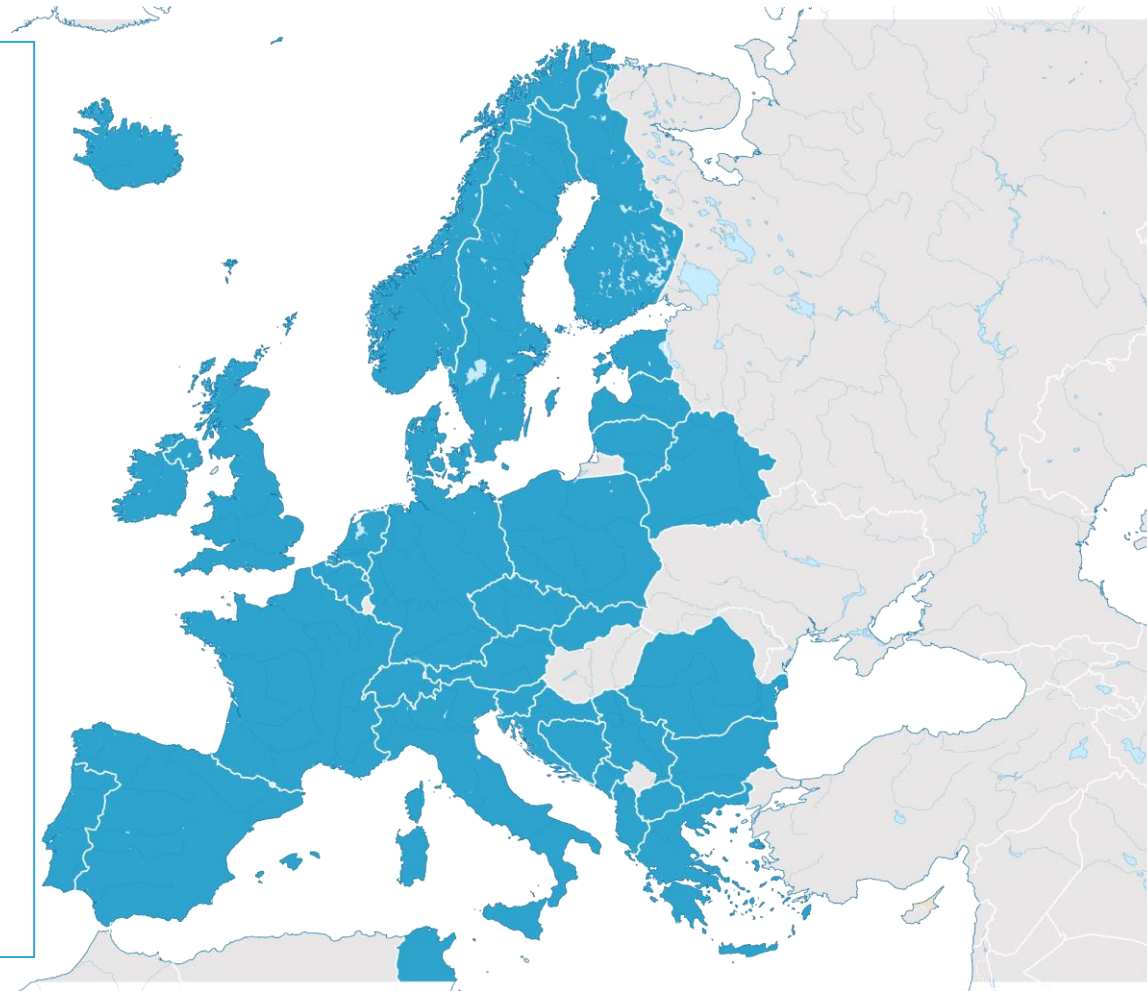
b) Work conditions. How do you work? *

- Alone
- Team with one or more OV's
- Team with one or more OV's and Official Auxiliaries
- Team with one or more Official Auxiliaries
- Other

Methods

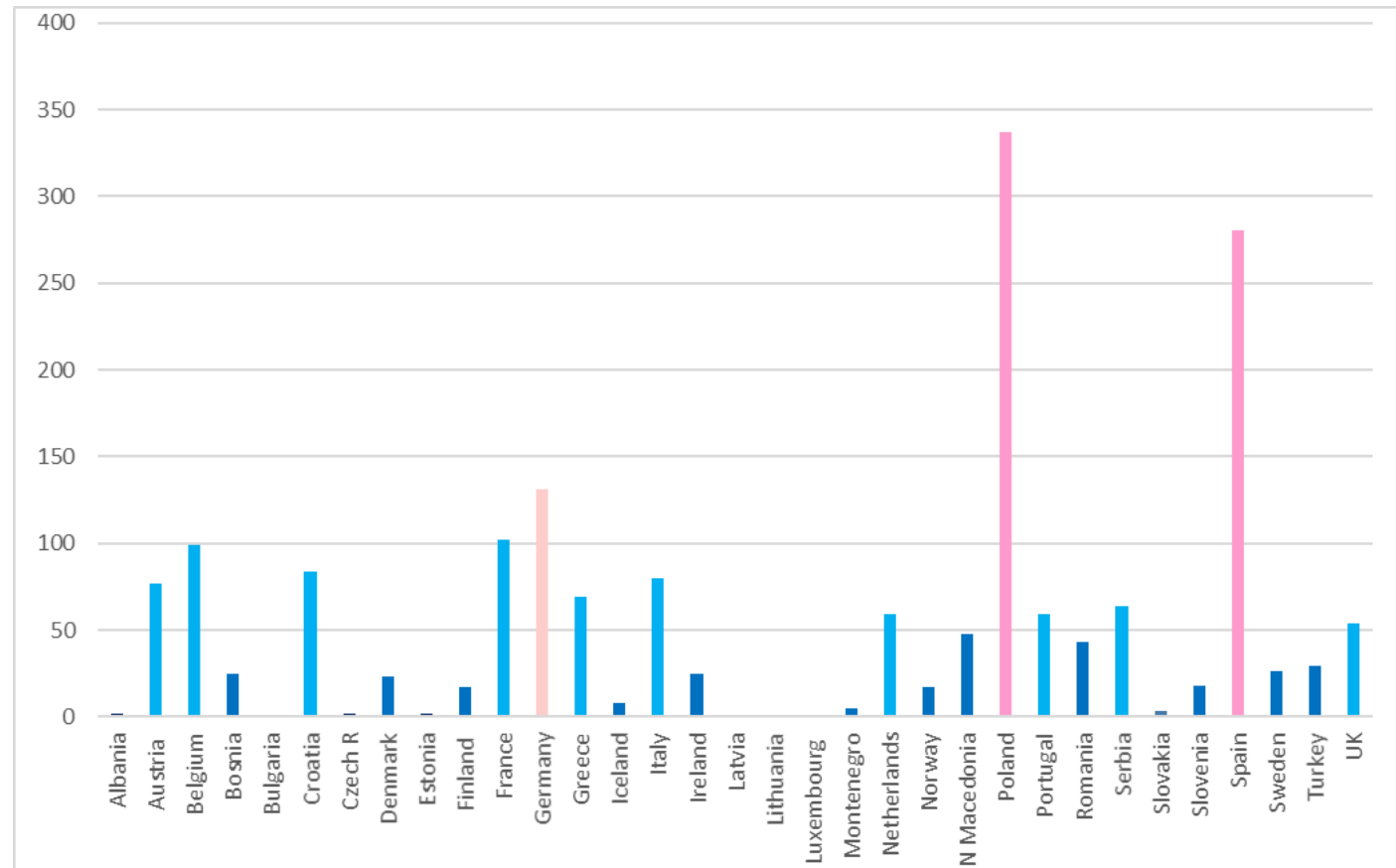
Dissemination in RIBMINS participating countries:

- NCPs
- European College of Veterinary Public Health network
- Federation of Veterinarians of Europe
- National Professional Organizations/National Veterinary Authorities
- Professional and personal contacts
- 1st December 2021-31st March 2022

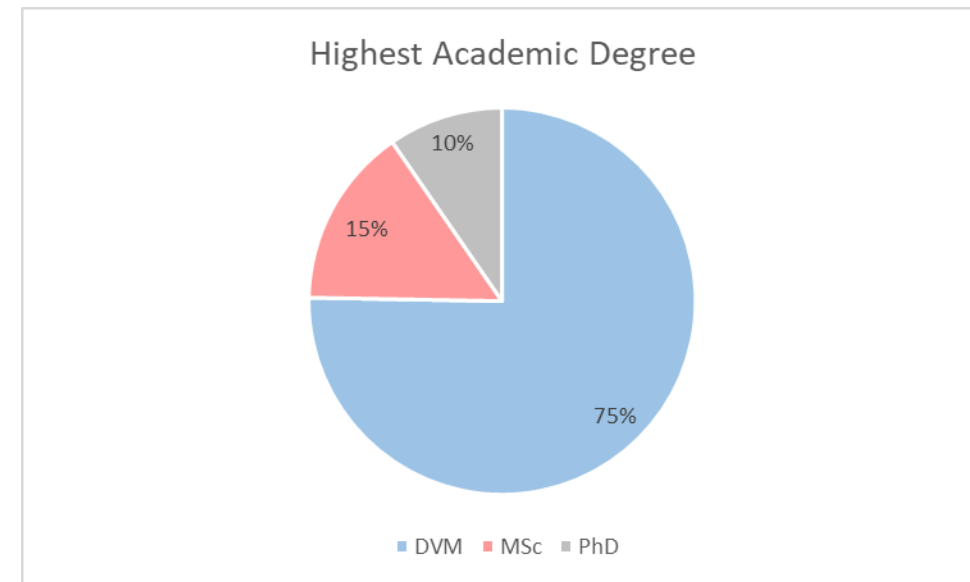
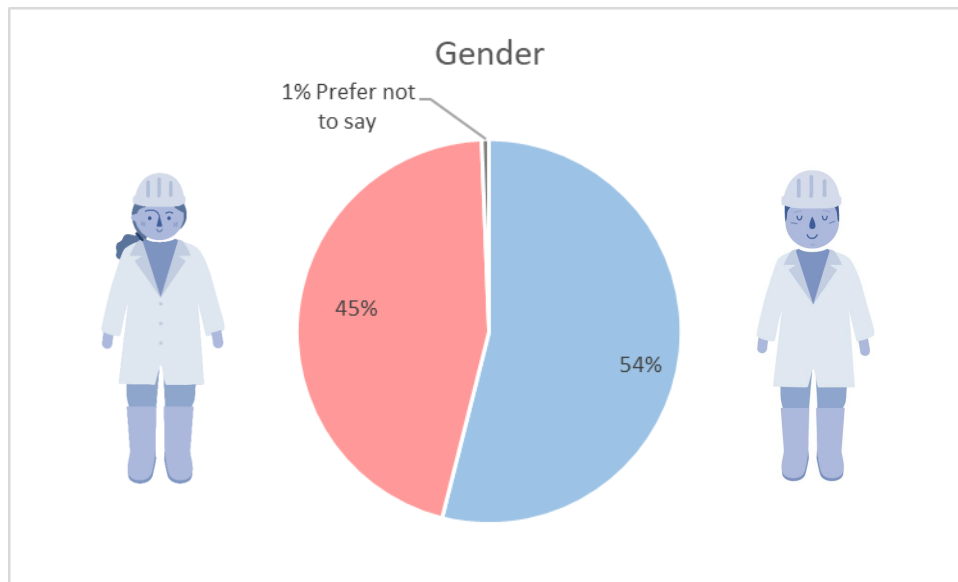


Preliminary results

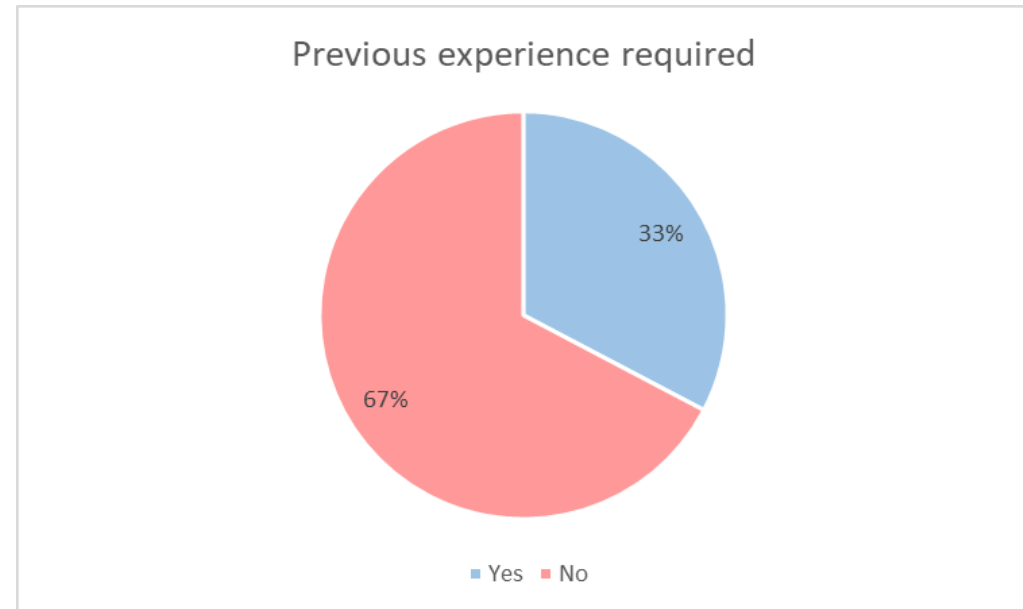
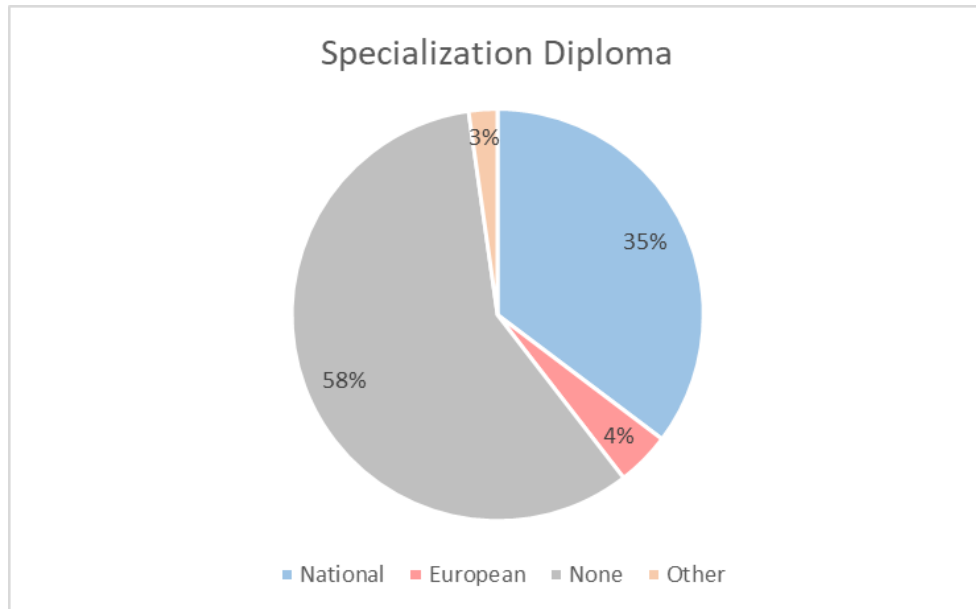
- 1790 responses
- 30 countries



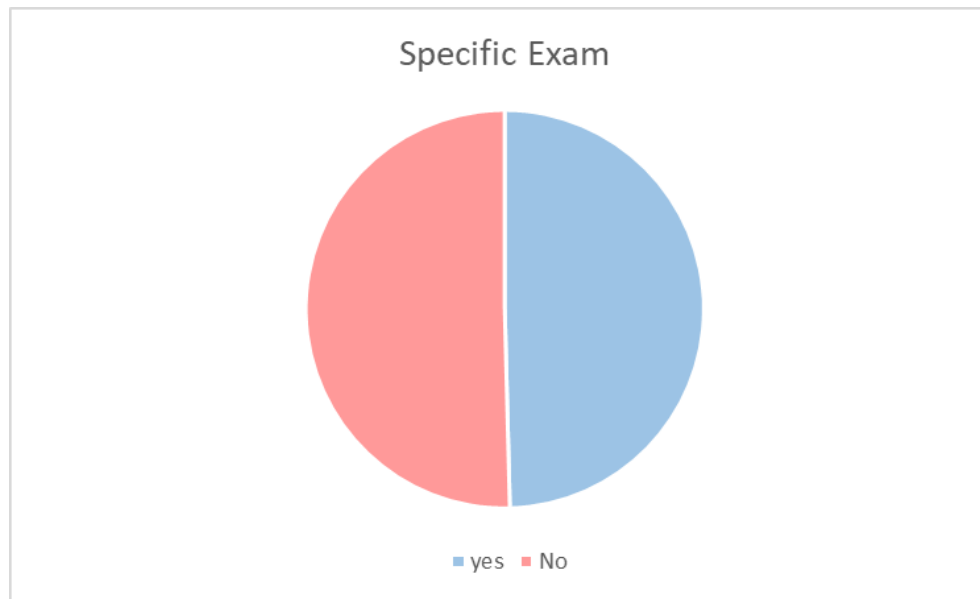
Preliminary results



Preliminary results



Preliminary results



Perspectives

- The data obtained will enable the characterization of this professional group throughout Europe
- Identify training needs & topics of interest
- Develop effective future training tools: online platform
- The RIBMINS legacy: dynamic and updated repository of training materials

Thank you!



Thank you!

