JOSO - THE PROTAGONIST FOR A CLOSER COOPERATION IN EUROPE - SOME HISTORICAL REMARKS

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Abstract. After two meetings about solar seeing in Rome (1961, 1962), 1969 Solar Physicists from seven European countries founded an organization named JOSO to build an European Solar Observatory. Besides this the "Joint Organization for Solar Observation" supported every cooperation between the different institutes. In Bern 1974 a combined meeting between optical and radio colleagues took place and one year later it was proposed to create a Solar Physics Section as part of the European Physical Society. This was approved 1976, but the important meeting 1975 in Firenze was numbered as the First European Solar Meeting. To build an European Large Solar Telescope the LEST-foundation was founded 1983 in Stockholm, unfortunately it was dissolved in 2002. In the last ten years many countries from eastern Europe became members of JOSO, now colleagues from 27 countries are members of this joint organization.

Key words: JOSO - history of JOSO

1. Introduction

After World war II the international scientific cooperation between the different countries started slowly, but continuously. The idea of a common Europe grew remarkable, but unfortunately Europe split into two parts. Within the astronomical community it became clearer and clearer that modern astronomical investigations could not be done from classical observatories in the surroundings of large cities. At the IAU-meeting in Moscow 1958 a resolution passed to organize an IAU-symposium to find criteria for building new observatories. Jean Rösch from the Pic du Midi Observatory was the organizer of this meeting, held 1962 in Rome. But earlier or around the same time something happens in Europe: (1) in 1952 CERN - Conseil