



RIPE Navel Gazing



Omphaloskepsis

Omphaloskepsis or **navel-gazing** is contemplation of one's navel as an aid to meditation.

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However, phrases such as "contemplating one's navel" or "navel-gazing" are frequently used, usually in jocular fashion, to refer to self-absorbed pursuits.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Omphaloskepsis>

From Diversity Comes Strength

- RIPE is currently attempting to improve the diversity of people in the RIPE community
- This is a conscious effort by part of the RIPE community to change RIPE
- We have been measuring RIPE meeting attendance by women

<https://github.com/shane-kerr/ripemtgender>

Old-School Meme Infection

- At a dinner conversation with Franziska Lichtblau, she mentioned that we measure the number of new attendees, but a community is not built only with new people
- She had (many!) other ideas about communities, but I resolved to measure how often individuals attend meetings

Meten is weten

"To measure is to know"

- Starting point: earlier work measuring women at RIPE meetings
- Change from CSV output to loading database
- Now we can do ad-hoc queries! Anything is possible!
- But... what to ask?
 - Last X of Y meetings? Impact by country? ...?
- Why am I doing this? What are we trying to change?

1989 is not 2018

- 29 years is a generation
 - Science says so:
https://isogg.org/wiki/How_long_is_a_generation...
- RIPE is not static
 - Working groups have changed
 - Meetings were 3x per year, now 2x; now also much bigger
- The Internet is not static
 - Don't need to work around telecoms to use IP any more!

Lets Do This Together



Teaser Questions

- How big should a RIPE Meeting be?
- What balance should we have between reliance on the RIPE NCC and the independence of RIPE
- How important is it to maintain institutional knowledge, versus getting new people and ideas?

