

# Global Standards, Local Voices: Mapping Latin American Participation in the IETF Meetings

Priscylla Silva, Pedro Silva, Julião Braga, Marcelo Santos



# Motivation

- The Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) is the open, volunteer-based community that develops the technical standards our global network depends on.
- But while participation is open to anyone, the voices shaping its future are not evenly distributed.
- This work maps the participation of one crucial and underrepresented region: Latin America and the Caribbean.



# Data and Methods

## IETF 123 proceedings

### Attendee list of IETF 123 meeting

Search ✕

Last Name <span>◇</span>	First Name <span>◇</span>	Organization <span>◇</span>	Country <span>◇</span>	Registration Type <span>◇</span>
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University of Napoli  
Acree AB  
Cisco Systems  
Caltech



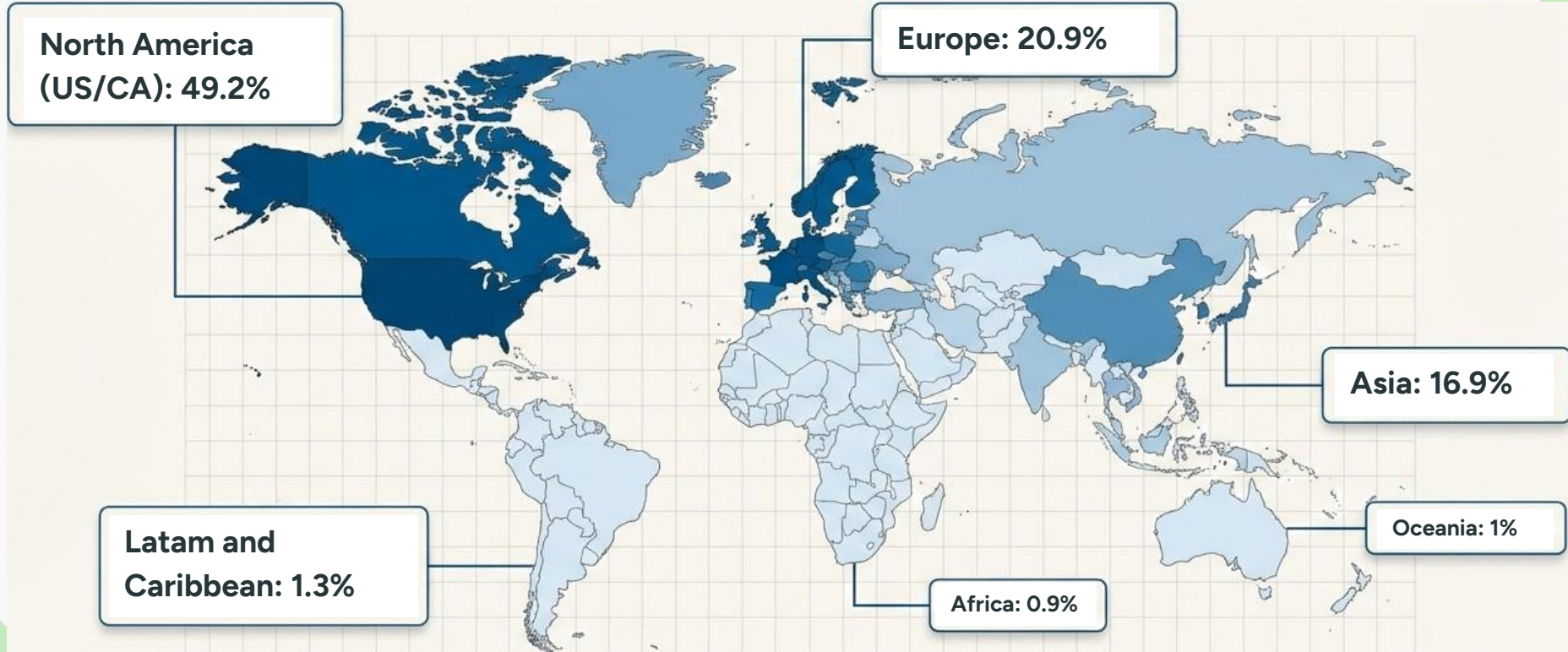
Phone: [REDACTED]  
FAX: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@rational.com  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Phone: +39 [REDACTED]  
FAX: +39 [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@beatles.cselt.it



NASA  
Washington DC, 20024  
202-[REDACTED]  
703-[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@nsipo.nasa.gov

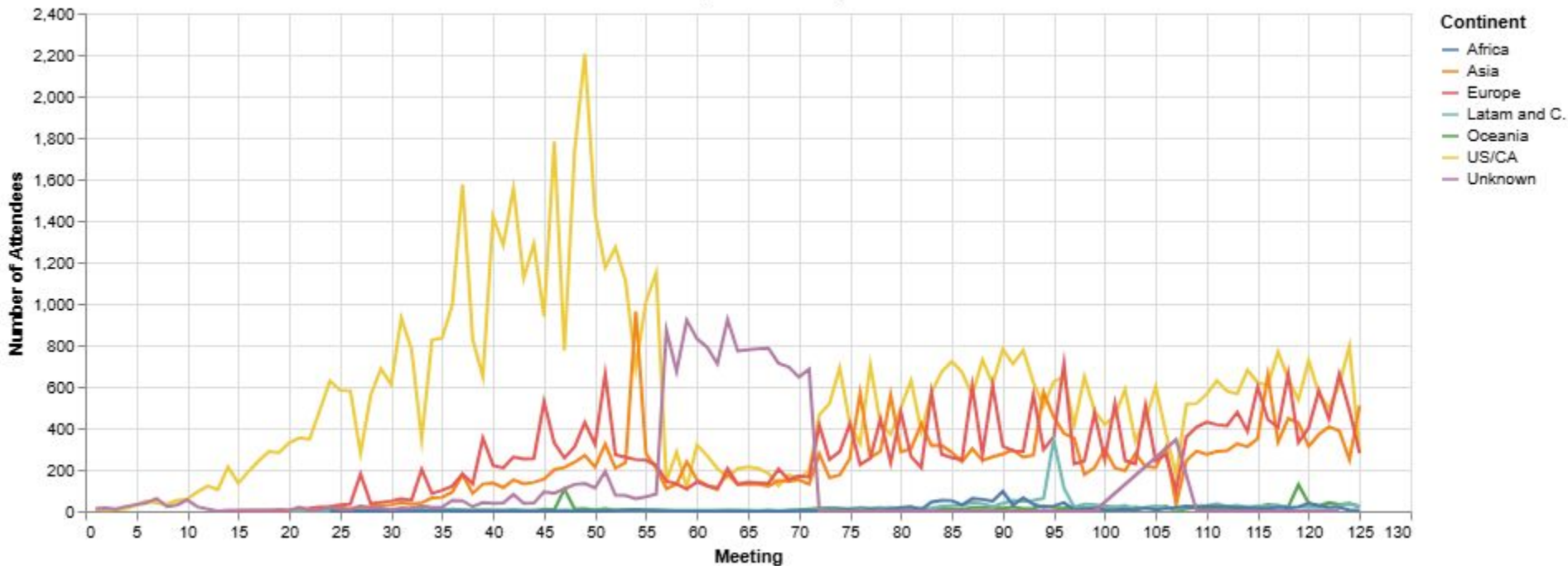


# Demographic analysis



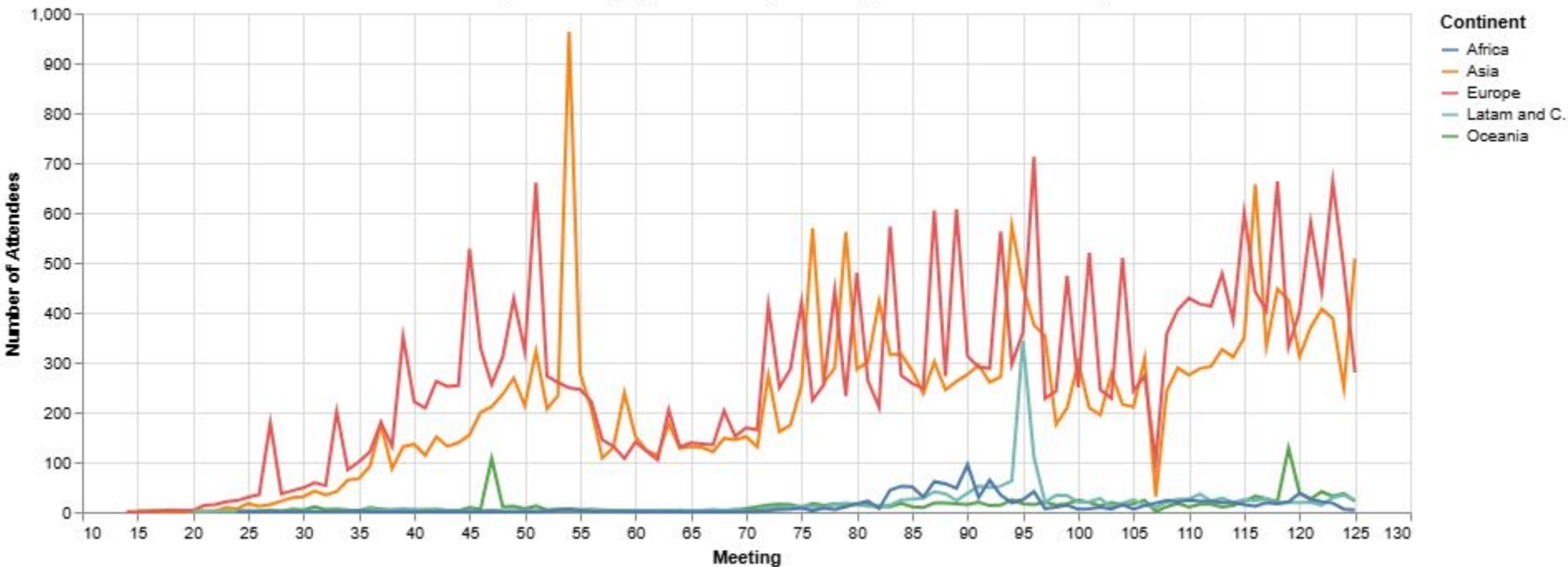
# Participation of regions over time

Attendees per Edition by Area

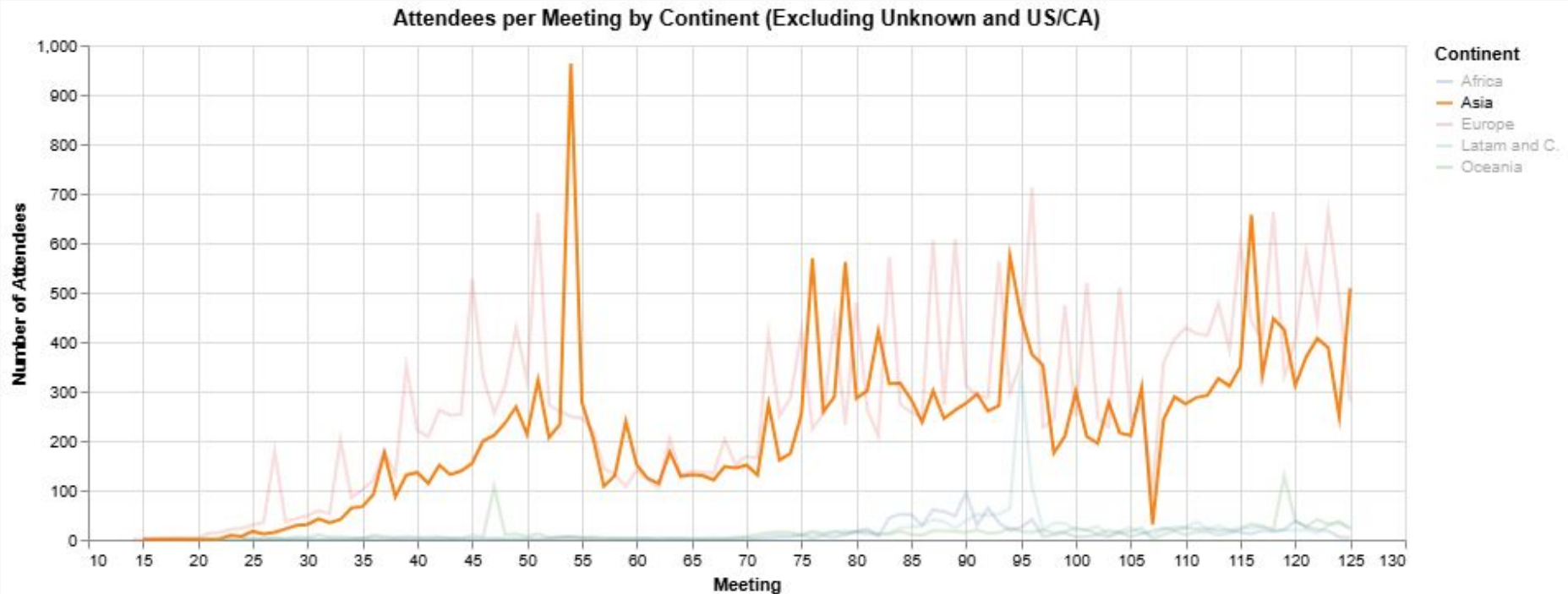


# Participation of regions over time

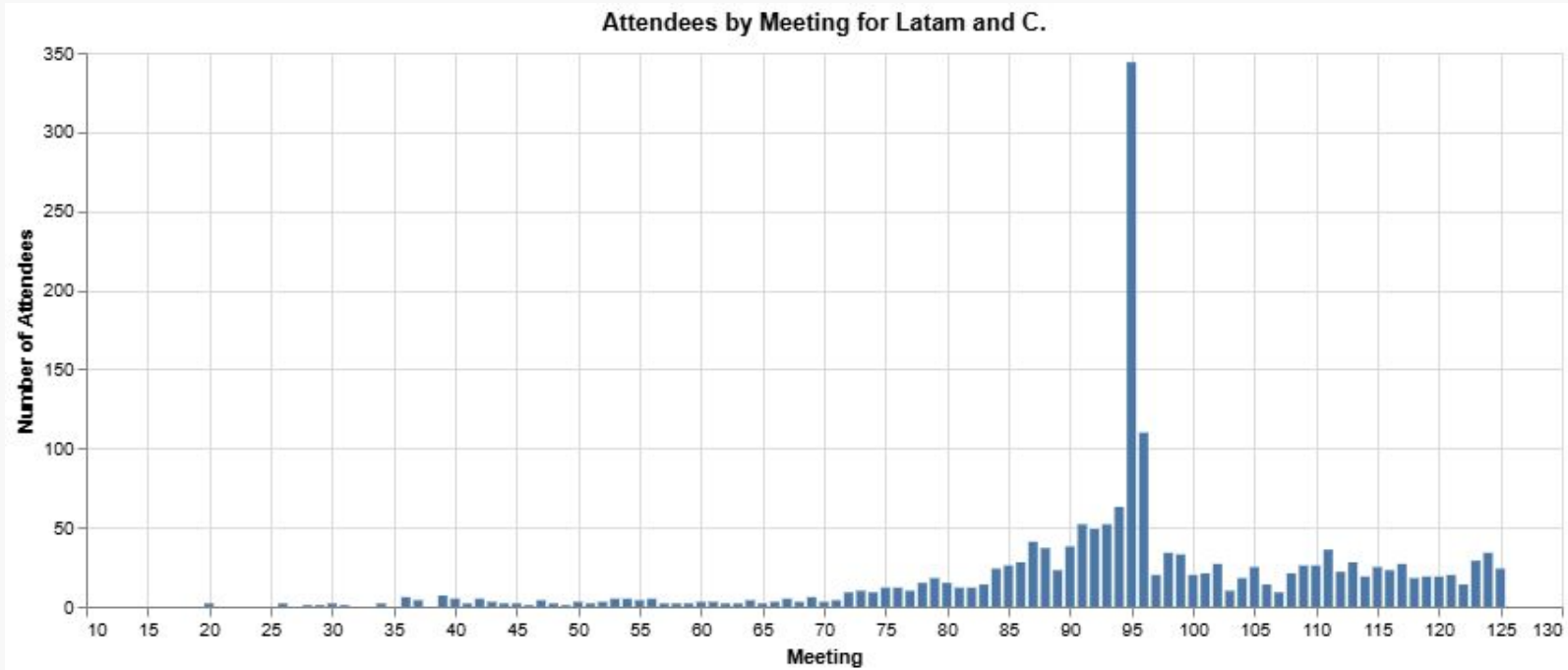
Attendees per Meeting by Continent (Excluding Unknown and US/CA)



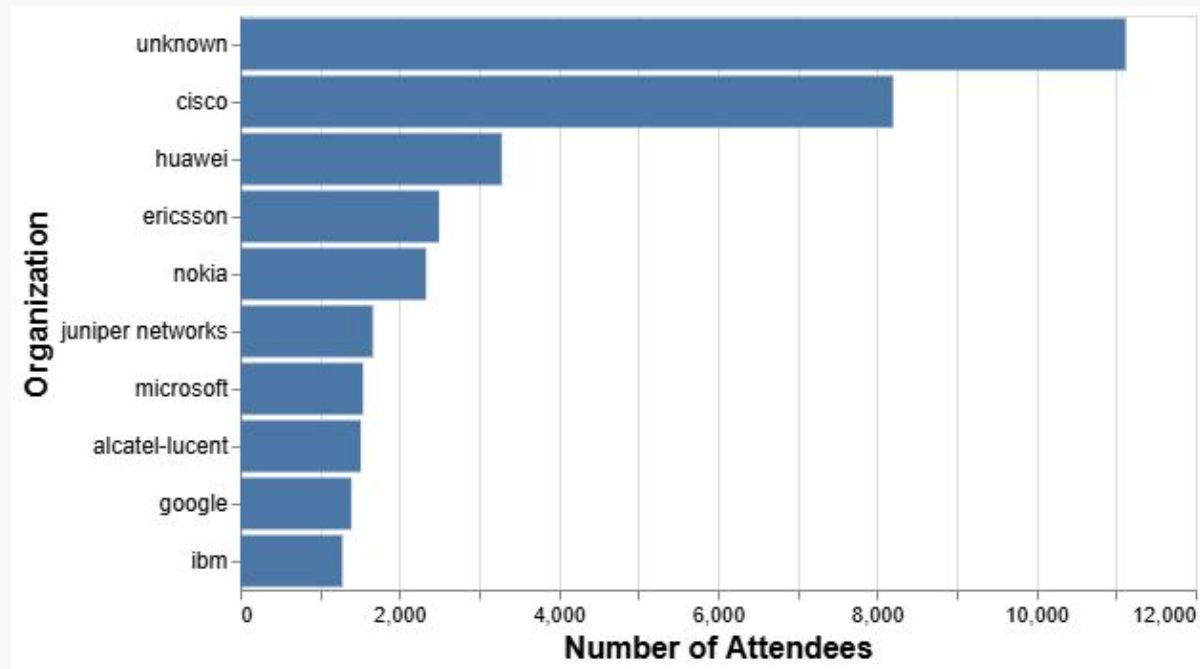
# Asia's influence is rising



# Latin America shows slow but steady growth since 2000

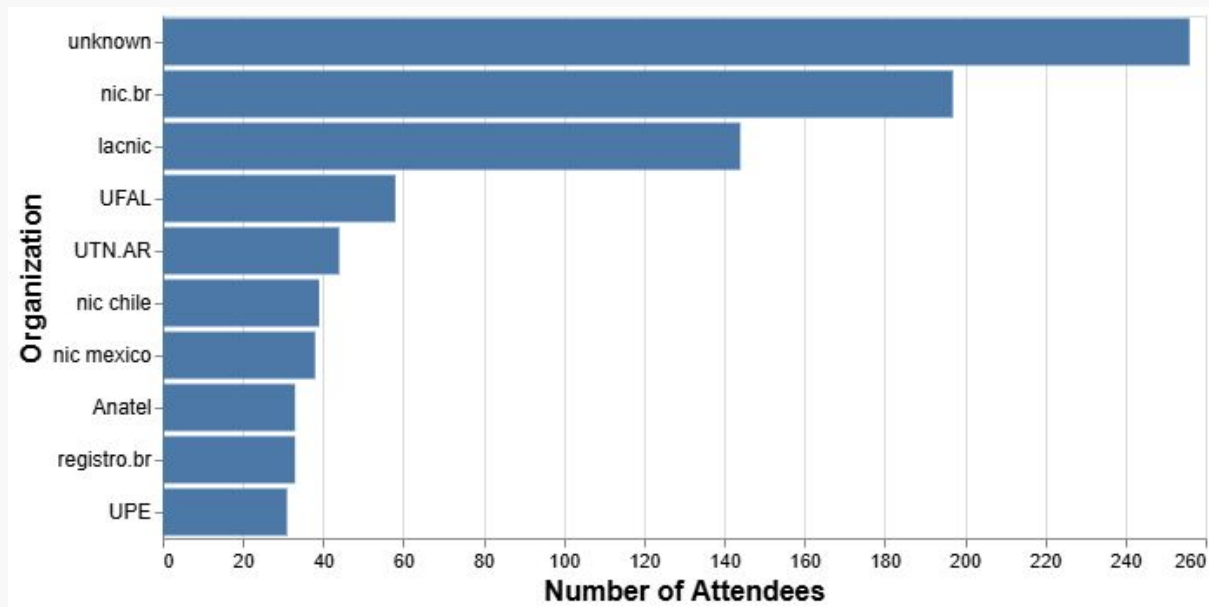


# Global Institutional Composition

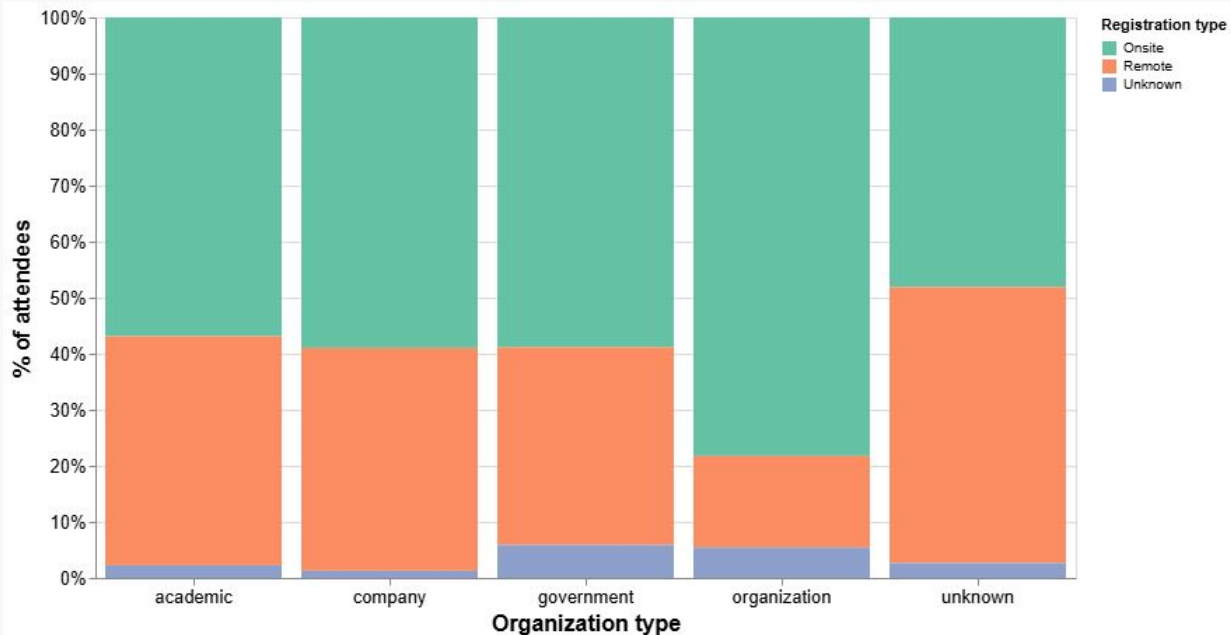


# LATAM Institutional Composition

IETF engagement in Latin America is not diffuse; it is anchored by a few key technical and academic organizations.

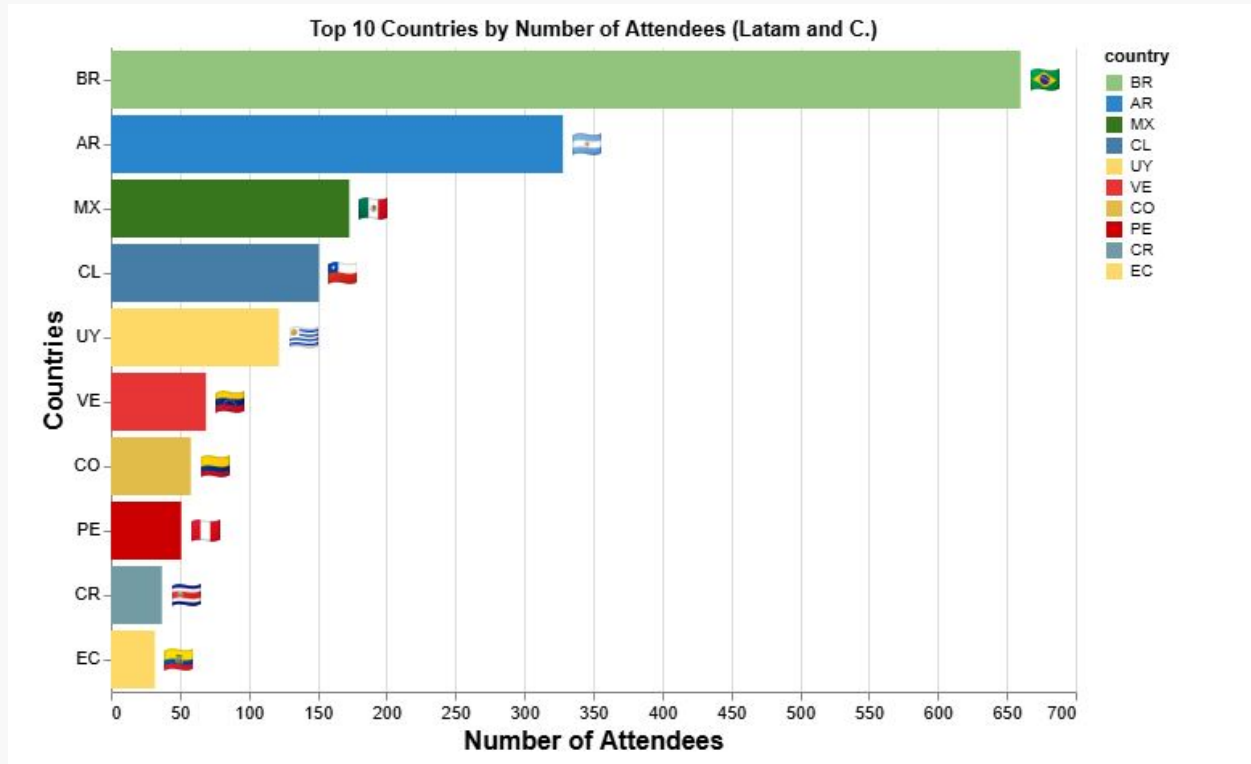


# Remote access is a critical lifeline, especially for the academic sector

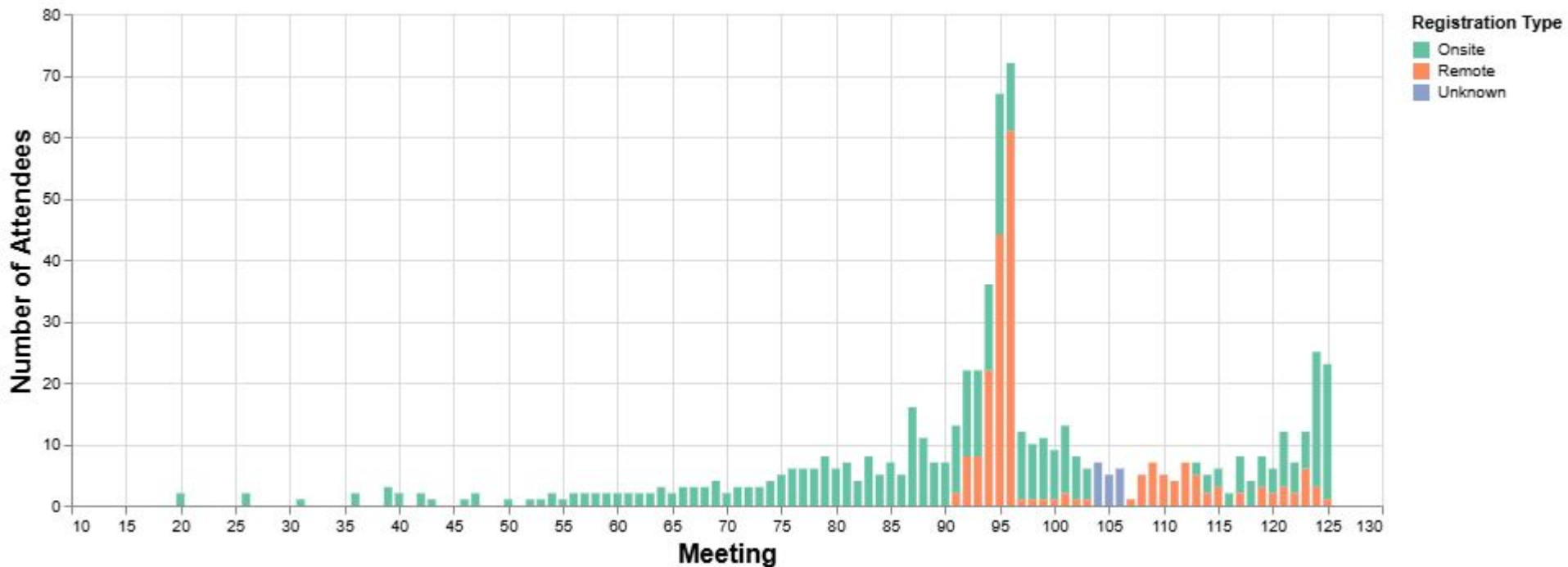


Percentage distribution of type of presence by type of organization (LATAM)

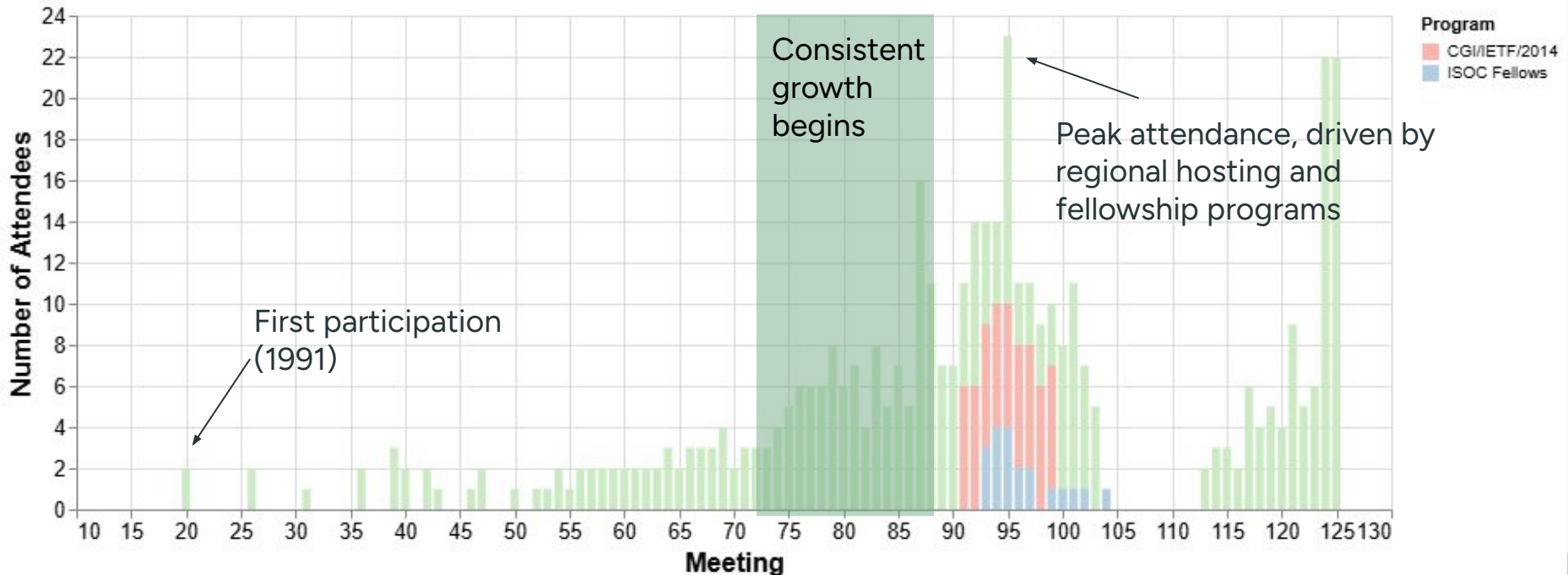
# Brazil leads Latin American engagement



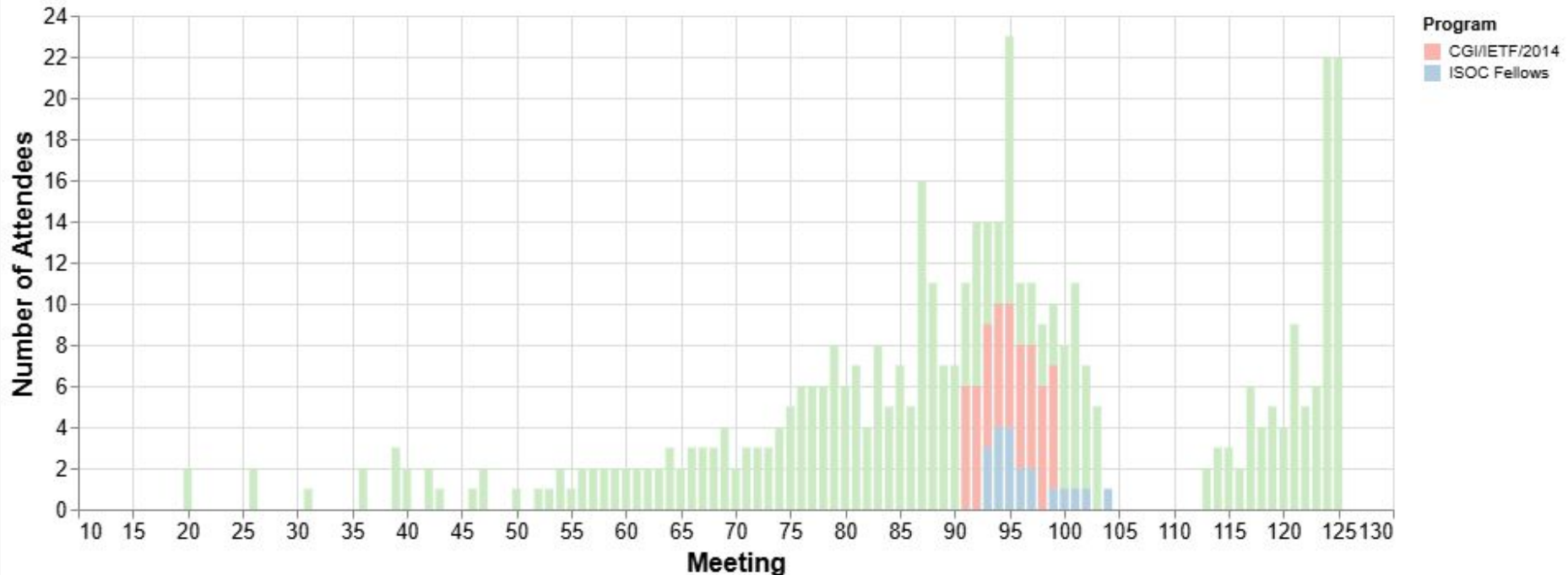
# Brazilian Participants



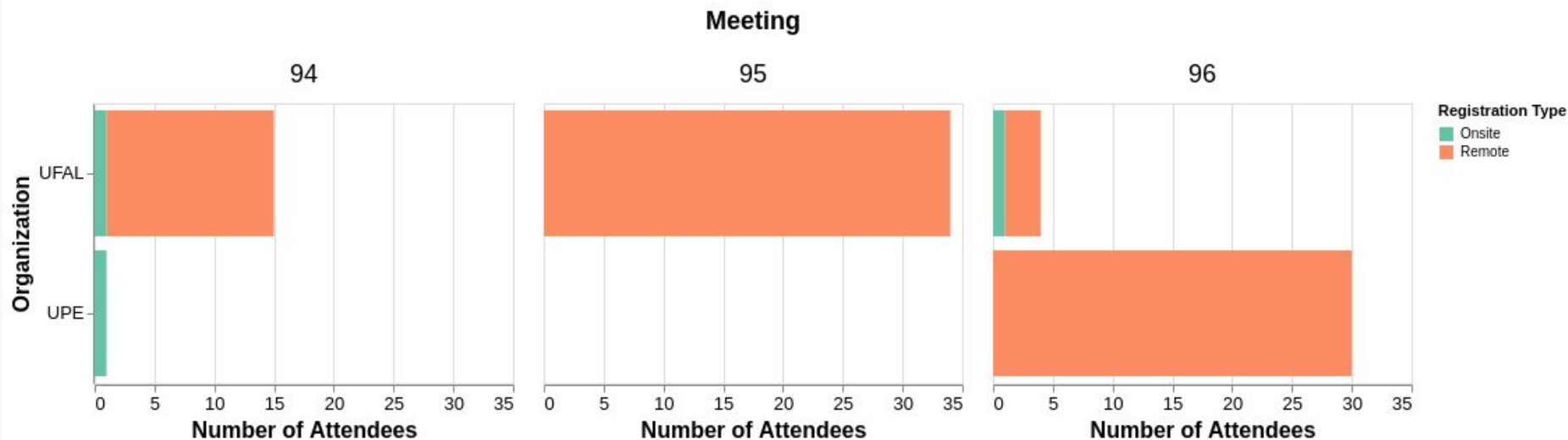
# Brazilian Onsite Participants



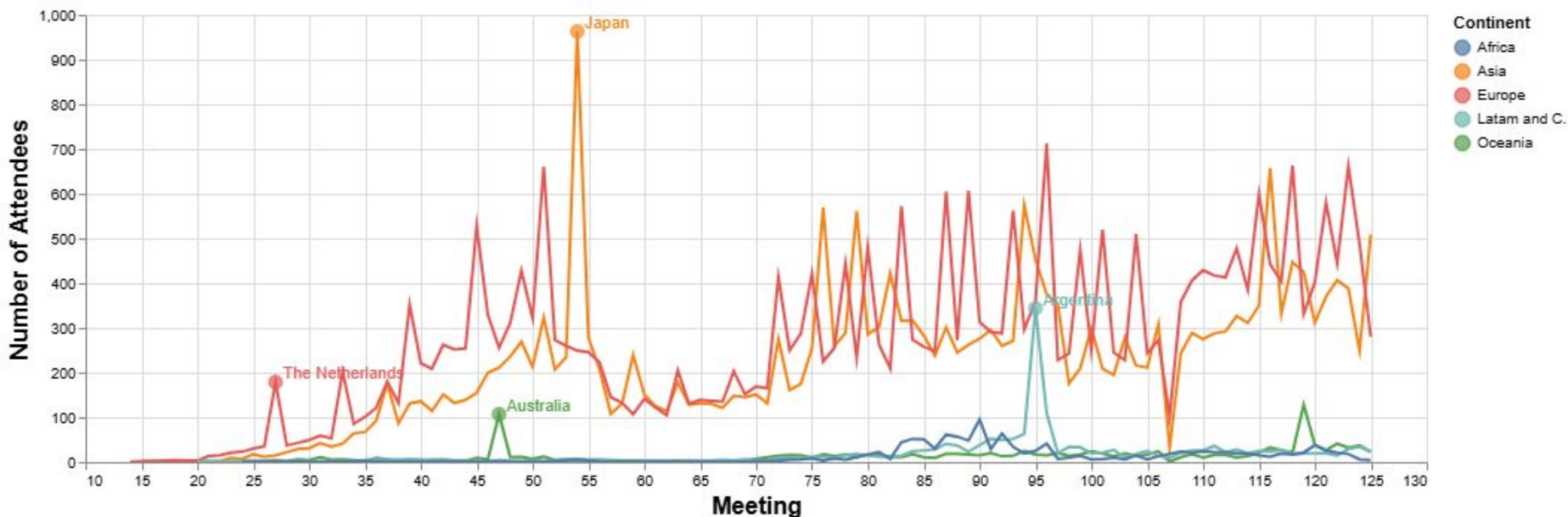
# Strategic fellowship programs directly fueled a surge in Brazilian participation.



# University-led remote hubs multiplied access and built local communities.



# Lessons: #1 Geographic Proximity



# Lessons: #2 Sustainable growth requires a combination of institutional support, targeted financing, and community strengthening



## **Institutional Leadership**

Anchored by key organizations like NIC.br and LACNIC.



## **Strategic Funding**

Fueled by targeted programs like the CGI.br & ISOC fellowships.



## **Community Access**

Expanded through innovative solutions like university remote hubs.

# Future Work: From Participation to Standardization Dynamics

- Investigate whether physical presence, mailing-list activity, or both influence progression toward RFC authorship
- Develop an interactive visualization system for reproducible country-level and organization-level analyses
- Study how technical consensus is constructed over time, including disagreement topic and convergence mechanisms

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