

## PREFACE

The first **Workshop on Coverings, Selections and Games in Topology** was held in Lecce, Italy, on June 27–29, 2002 and organized by the Department of Mathematics of Lecce University.

The aim of this workshop was to consider development and activities over the last few years in a quickly growing field of Mathematics known under the name Selection Principles and to discuss its relationships with other areas of Mathematics, such as (generalized) Ramsey theory, infinite game theory, combinatorial cardinals, function spaces, hyperspaces, uniform spaces, topological algebras and so on.

The work was organized in such a way as to have plenary 50 minute lectures on general aspects as well as on some specific topics and 25 minute contributed talks. Each session was ended by a discussion on presented results.

The conference has been closed by a Round Table. The goal was to consider and discuss further common research activities, open problems in the field and the organization of new future meetings on the same topic. It was decided to publish the Proceedings of the meeting as a special issue of *Note di Matematica* following the usual referee procedure established by the journal. In particular, it has been decided the Proceedings to contain two survey papers: the first one opens this volume and presents general aspects of the theory of selection principles with recent progress in this area and with directions of further investigation; the second one, which closes the volume, is devoted to the presentation and discussion of open problems. Special thanks are due to the authors of these surveys.

Also, it was planned to edit the *SPM Bulletin*, an electronic bulletin dedicated to the field with announcements of new results as well as with open problems.

We hope that these Proceedings which contain some of the papers presented at the Workshop will help to attract new researchers and stimulate the investigation in this field of Mathematics.

*Organizers and Editors:*

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