

PREFACE

The Proceedings of the International Congress of Mathematicians 1998, held in Berlin, are published – electronically and in print – in three volumes. Volume I contains information on the organization of the Congress including the list of participants, reports on the opening and closing ceremonies, the Laudationes on the Fields Medalists and the Nevanlinna Prize Winner, and the Plenary Lectures. Volumes II and III contain the Invited Lectures.

For the first time, the Proceedings of an ICM have been produced completely electronically – without any commercial assistance. Using the facilities of DOCUMENTA MATHEMATICA, the contents of the Plenary and Invited Lectures were made available without charge on the Internet, already before the Congress started, at <http://www.mathematik.uni-bielefeld.de/documenta/>.

The printed versions of Volumes II and III were distributed to the participants at the beginning of the Congress. Volume I, containing material which had to be gathered during the Congress, was printed about three months after the Congress.

We want to thank all the speakers and organizers for their cooperation which made such fast publication possible.

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