Preface

The 23rd International Conference on Requirements Engineering: Foundation for Software Quality took place from February 27th to March 2nd, 2017 in Essen, Germany. REFSQ ’17 publishes reports of novel ideas and techniques that enhance the quality of requirements engineering (RE) products and processes, as well as reflections on current research and industrial RE practices.

RE methods, tools and processes are nowadays expected to support engineering diverse types of systems of different scale and complexity – such as information systems, safety-critical systems, socio-technical systems, service-based applications, apps for mobile devices, or cyberphysical systems – and are applied in diverse domains. The special theme of REFSQ ’17 is “My RE” to emphasize an important issue: how can RE evolve to deal with this diversity, still keeping its ultimate objective: understanding what is the right software system and helping developing it in the right way. REFSQ ’17 encouraged submissions that highlight how RE could be advanced and adapted to address those challenges.

The REFSQ conferences also have a tradition of hosting associated events, where participants are able to focus on emerging topics of RE as the foundation of software quality. On workshop day, February 27th, four workshops and the doctoral symposium were organized, whereas the research method track and posters and tools track sessions took place during the conference days. The content of these sessions is (partially)3 published in these proceedings.

The four workshops at REFSQ ’17 were carefully selected based on their quality, attractiveness and potential interested to the suggested topics:

– **CRE: 3rd Workshop on Continuous Requirements Engineering** (organised by Peter Forbrig, Marite Kirikova, Ahmed Seffah): When changes are frequent and high flexibility is required, in large systems

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3 Research Method Track partially published in the Conference Proceedings.

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the engineering processes grow into continuous engineering. Continuous engineering naturally requires continuous RE that can combine rigid engineering principles with agility, emergence, and spontaneity to support sustainability and viability of the systems.

– **CREARE: 6th International Workshop on Creativity in Requirements Engineering** (organized by Andrea Herrmann, Daniel M. Berry, Maya Daneva, Eduard C. Groen)

The CreaRE workshop brings together RE practitioners and researchers who are interested in discussing the role of creativity in RE, the array of creativity techniques that can be applied to RE, and the ways in which creativity techniques from other disciplines can be leveraged in RE. It also aims at raising awareness in the RE community of the importance of creativity techniques, and creative elements in RE and development processes.

– **PrioRE: 1st Workshop on Requirements Prioritisation and Enactment** (organized by Alberto Siena, Fitsum M. Kifetew, and David Ameller)

PrioRE provides a platform to exchange visions on requirements prioritization, release planning and their enactment, with the goal to allow careful but fast decision-making about cost-value trade-offs.


Self-adaptive systems (SAS) and cyber physical systems (CPS) represent novel categories of software-intensive systems insofar that they possess significantly different properties than traditional information systems or embedded systems. For example, their highly connected and context-aware nature gives rise to changes in their runtime behaviour, stressing the need for runtime adaptation and reorganization, which must be considered during the requirements phase.

This volume also includes papers of the REFSQ ’17 Doctoral Symposium, Research Method Track, and Posters and Tools Track.

– The goals of the **Doctoral Symposium** (organized by Jennifer Horkoff and Jolita Ralytė) are to provide PhD students with an opportunity to present and discuss their present work in early as well as advanced stages of their research, to provide all participant students with advice and suggestions from a panel of senior researchers, and to facilitate interaction among all the participants.

– The main goal of the **Research Method Track** (organised by Oscar Dieste and Fabio Massacci) is to stimulate discussion on how to assess state-of-art, how to generalize from empirical studies, and how to set up longitudinal studies.

– The **Posters and Tools Track** (organised by Fabiano Dalpiaz and Patrick Mäder) is a forum to present posters and demonstrate tools covering any aspect of RE. It gives researchers the chance to present their most recent work and obtain early feedback on ongoing research.

We would like to thank all Workshop, Doctoral Symposium, Research Method Track, and Posters and Tools Track Chairs as well as their Program Commit-
tees for their diligence in selecting the papers and ensuring their high scientific quality.