What you've always wanted to know about the journalists sitting next to you at GIJC17

If there's one thing to take away from GIJC17, it's that data is the new hot shit in journalism. Data visualization, web scraping or social media sleuthing – there have never been so many panels related to DDJ.

When there are more than 1130 journalists from 126 countries – why not use these cool, new tools & techniques right away? Our German reporters from the Vuvuzela student newsroom have applied all the data they could get their hands on to figure out whether there are more female or male participants, where they are from, and what they eat.

Almost as many female investigative muckrakers (521) participate in the GIJC17 in Joburg as male colleagues (579). In sum, 1115 participants made their way to South Africa for the 10th Global Investigative Journalism Conference. Fifteen journalists identified their gender as non definable.

Most of the participants come from the host country South Africa (245), followed by the USA (89). The third largest group travelled here from other countries of the African continent: from Nigeria (56), Mozambique (29) and Zimbabwe (21). Forty-seven journalists came all the way from Denmark, followed by their European colleagues from the UK (39), Germany (37) and Sweden (28). Twenty-four participants represent India.

There is not secret diet that the world's best investigative journalists are on – your meal selection probably doesn't affect the chance of winning a Pulitzer. In fact, most participants follow what is called a "normal diet". In South Africa that means: delicious meat, chicken wings, sausages and pulled pork, while veggies take shape of roasted corn, potato salad and pap – what we might know as porridge.

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