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Message from the ESS President

Dear ESS friends, colleagues and sympathizers,



I trust this message finds you in excellent health and high spirits. Before delving into updates and forthcoming initiatives, it is crucial to acknowledge the remarkable 40th anniversary of the European Shock Society (ESS). We are delighted to have celebrated this significant milestone at the 20th ESS Congress held at the University of Vienna. Let us take a moment to appreciate the success of the meeting, masterfully led by our past-president, Marcin Osuchowski. Memorable events, such as the "40 Years of ESS: Reminiscences" round-table, effectively brought together former ESS presidents and scientists, showcasing both thematic diversity and exceptional quality. Marcin's initiative to make the ESS congress more accessible to junior participants was a resounding success, and the inclusion of patient testimonies added a moving and enlightening dimension to the event. A sincere thank you, Marcin!

Undoubtedly, the global challenges, conflicts in Gaza and Ukraine, and prevailing uncertainties and anxieties worldwide have impacted us all. Despite these challenges, I hope you've found moments of comfort by connecting with our shared humanity, which transcends borders and differences. Our commitment to unbiased and genuine humanity, irrespective of various identifiers such as nationality, gender identity, socioeconomic background, upbringing, religion, education, sexual orientation, ethnicity, neurodiversity, and life experience, serves as a testament to our resilience and strength, actively practiced within our ESS community. Our community stands as an inspiring model of unity, respect, and enthusiasm, not only in scientific pursuits but also in fostering a sense of inclusion and camaraderie. The recent 20th ESS Congress vividly showcased our dedication to embracing diversity, not only within our collective humanity but also within the scientific realm—a goal we are committed to in our future initiatives.

Preparations are currently in progress for the upcoming 21st ESS Congress in 2025 in Croatia, promising another enriching scientific and social exchange. Additional information will be disseminated through our newsletter and personalized emails in the coming year. We actively encourage your valuable contributions and innovative ideas for advancing the future development of our society. Our goal is to involve as many members as possible in the organizational aspects of both the ESS and the ESS Congress 2025 in Croatia. Feel free to contact us if you are interested in volunteering to contribute to the society's future development or if you have ideas that could positively impact our ongoing progress. Reflecting on the role of ESS, we aim to strengthen our foundation by promoting professional education and mentoring for young investigators in the fields of shock, trauma, and sepsis. Our overarching vision encompasses the expansion of our platform to incorporate cutting-edge technologies, including artificial intelligence. We are committed to involving experts from diverse fields and seamlessly integrating translational sciences with clinical needs in critical care. Let us not overlook the vital role of companies in our scientific landscape.

I want to extend a warm welcome to new board members, including the inspiring and engaged scientist, Sina Coldewey, as our new treasurer, and the motivated and skilled newly elected councillor, Brendon P. Scicluna. Likewise, the accomplished group leaders in trauma research, Rebecca Halbgewbauer and Christian Bergmann, join as councillors appointed by the president for the 21st ESS Congress in 2025 in Croatia. Our new auditors, Anna Herminghaus and Antigone Kotsaki, bring their energy, motivation, and mentorship to guide the next generations. The future looks great! Congratulations are in order for our former President Evangelos Giamarellos-Bourboulis, now chairing the European Sepsis Alliance, and to Marcus-Huber Lang, our former President, who has ascended to President-Elect of IFSS.

I extend sincere regards to all our current and future members. Keeping our visions in mind, let us aspire to have each ESS member recruit a new member annually to enhance our global impact.

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After 40 years of the ESS, I am honored to navigate the ESS ship. This responsibility comes with significant expectations and follows in the footsteps of distinguished individuals with impressive life and scientific success stories. I rely on your support, strengths, and constructive critiques as we navigate our ship. As a fitting closure, I leave you with a quote from Franklin D. Roosevelt:

"The only limit to our realization of tomorrow will be our doubts of today."

With best regards,

Borna Relja

Message from the immediate past ESS President

Dear ESS Members & Friends,

I am typing these words with three dominating feelings: i) gratitude, ii) joy and iii) accomplishment. All three are intertwined given that they pertain to the 20th ESS congress I had an honor to organize in Vienna this September.



Marcin with ESS congress participants (from left: Matthijs Kox, Jesus Bermejo-Martin, Brendon Scicluna, Joost Wiersinga, Sylvia Knapp)

Gratitude: it goes without saying that the success of the 20th ESS congress was built upon the presence of the attending participants – YOU! Dear all, thank you from the bottom of my (past) presidential heart for accepting my invitation and taking your time to come to Vienna this year, either to serve as a speaker, poster presented or simply to attend. We all know there is a vast selection of congresses out there to attend... I especially extend my thanks to all of our visitors from outside of Europe – and there were many of you!

Without naming individuals, I equally sincerely extend my deep gratitude to those who have in any way contributed to the organization of the event (all sponsors, organizers of the ESS Summer School, Poster Walks, ENIAC, organ concert, dinners, popcorn/cotton candy stands and countless other critical tasks). Be proud for keeping the ESS running and in high gear!

Joy: I felt it numerous times throughout the congress despite being on the run most of the time. I experienced the first flare-up of pure joy at the ESS board dinner, which ten past-ESS presidents attended. Seeing all those old pals connecting again, often after a long hiatus, was a fantastic and heart-warming feeling. This feeling extended to the 40th Years of ESS session that featured a round table with the past ESS presidents, Borna and I had great fun moderating. Another two powerful "joy-kicks" (heavily mixed with emotion) transpired at the Patient Testimonial Session and the ending gala dinner in the beautiful Wappensaal of the Viennese city hall on Saturday. Most of all during the entire 3-day congress, however, I was joyful to see all of you interacting so naturally, without any pretense and inhibition.



Marcin with former (Heinz Redl, left) and current (Giovanni Grillari, middle) bosses (and friends)

Accomplishment: This is a solid feeling of a job well-done. I enjoy it very much, especially now, looking at the congress with some retrospection. Pre-congress period was, admittedly, quite stressful to me. However, I was mentally prepared for that stress, effectively embraced and constructively channeled it into action. In contrast, I was not ready at all for the intensity of logistic/organizational shortcomings during the congress itself (not at all of AUVA/ESS making); it forced the entire organizational team to be in a permanent damage-control mode. An organizational near-meltdown moment a few hours before the closing gala dinner was an unwanted epitome of that stress. Yet, with a support of the right team/people, I was able to overcome all those obstacles and carry the event to a happy end. It is important to stress that all of you who put a helping hand to the success of the congress should share with me this particular feeling of accomplishment.

I sincerely hope that this congress will remain in your minds and hearts for the years to come. We are all shaped by numerous emotions we experience throughout our lives; some positive, others negative. I believe that this congress was a very positive one and it will shape us up to be a bit better scientists, doctors, mentors, students - or simply better humans.

I end with the familiar *"Le roi est mort, vive le roi"* (though no death of mine is involved!) and happily support our new female captain for the next two years.

Marcin Osuchowski

Message from the ESS General Secretary



Dear Colleagues, dear members and friends of ESS,

First, I want to thank you for your trust in me for another four-year term as Secretary-General of the ESS.

It is our great pleasure to announce that 12 new members were recruited between 2021 and 2023 (after the online meeting date) and also we recruited further 4 new members during/shortly after the 2023 Congress! However, some longstanding members have not yet renewed their membership. ***Dear Friends, please do not forget to renew your ESS membership status!***

My task again included maintaining and updating the [ESS website](#). Here you will find a declaration condemning the war in Ukraine, a publication representing the ESS (coauthor of Marc Maegele), sharing the latest information on the forthcoming congress and the history of the Society, which was an important element of the Congress this year. ESS also endorses congresses of other societies through the ESS website. New elements were added to the [ESS membership database](#), so that those who enrolled in the database could also receive up-to-date information about their membership status and the [exact date of payment of their membership fees](#). ***Therefore, ESS' membership database is not only for new members. Even if you are a member of ESS, remember to join the database of ESS members.*** ESS also manages the website for the International Federation of Shock Societies ([IFSS](#)). A new [credit card payment option](#) of the ESS membership fee is also available.

Since the online meeting in 2021, two **newsletters** have been published. ***Please feel free to contact us if you volunteer to make a contribution to the future newsletters*** (by writing about hot topics/new methodologies in Shock research or sharing your experience with ESS to encourage new people to join ESS).

The ESS has continued to cooperate with other associations. ESS has been a member of the Global Sepsis Alliance since 2013 and supports its activities (transmitting the GSA initiative to ESS members and presenting relevant content on the ESS website). Marc Maegele (our new President-Elect) still serves as a representative of ESS in the ABC Trauma initiative. Evangelos Giamarellos-Bourboulis (our

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former President) is the chair of the European Sepsis Alliance. We are proud to announce that Marcus-Huber Lang, our former President and current member of the ESS Board, has become President-Elect of IFSS. ESS also supports the ESTES and ESOT.



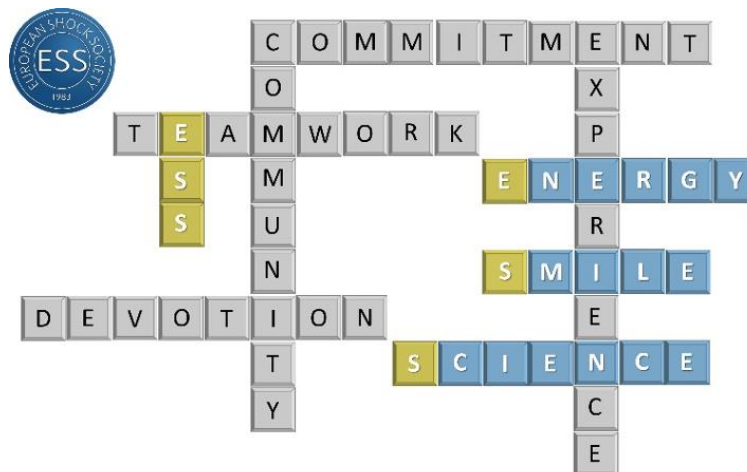
Having worked on the [history of the ESS](#) before, I was very excited to prepare an opening presentation for the ESS history session of the current congress (an interactive Q/A session with past presidents of the ESS). Unfortunately, because of my temporary illness (which prevented me from attending this year's ESS Congress in person), my presentation was delivered by Borna Relja, for which I thank her a lot.

The "Round Table with Past ESS Presidents – Q/A" session

Final words: We cordially welcome our new members, but it must be noted that the society is still in great need of loyal 'old' members. This year's congress would not have been possible without the support of devoted people, through the organization of the summer school (to educate possible great scientists of the future), delivery of excellent lectures, and the organization and chairing of fantastic scientific sessions. Of course, the greatest praise goes to Marcin, whose tremendous efforts have paid off handsomely (according to the many positive feedback on the congress).

Thank you Marcin, thank you to all the contributors!

Your secretary,
Andrea Szabó



ESS acronym explanation by Mouna Ben Azaiz; Crossword by Andrea Szabó.

The Treasurer's Corner



Dear ESS Members and friends.

For me, the European Shock Society is a unique organisation that connects top researchers and young scientists in the field of shock, sepsis and trauma research in an ideal way to share and conduct significant future-oriented translational research.

After having served almost 10 years as an auditor of the ESS, together with Mihaly Boros, and a member of the editorial board of the Shock journal, I am delighted and honoured to have now been elected as the new Treasurer of the ESS. Thank you for your trust! I have been asked to introduce my academic background briefly. During my clinical work as an anaesthetist at the Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine at Hannover Medical School and Jena University Hospital I covered the entire spectrum of anaesthesiology and intensive care medicine at a university maximum care facility. Since my appointment to the full professorship for Clinical Anaesthesiology and Translational Intensive Care Medicine at the Friedrich-Schiller- University Jena in 2020, I am responsible for the clinical and administrative management of the Division of Clinical Anaesthesiology within the Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine. Furthermore, I have been given the great opportunity to continue my translational research together with my fantastic interdisciplinary team consisting of doctors and scientists at Septomics research centre in Jena (<https://www.septomics.de/en/>). Our research focus on investigations of pathophysiological and molecular mechanisms of pathogen-mediated organ dysfunction in sepsis and the haemolytic uremic syndrome as well as novel diagnostic and therapeutic approaches to better assess and treat pathogen-mediated organ dysfunction with the long-term goal of developing and implementing novel diagnostic and therapeutic strategies to improve the prognosis of life-threatening systemic infectious diseases.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Marcin Osuchowski for the great organization of a wonderful conference in Vienna. Chapeau! My sincerest congratulations go to our new president Borna Relia. I am sure, she will do a fantastic job!

I look forward to meeting you again at the next ESS Congress in Croatia in 2025!

Your treasurer,
Sina Coldewey

Reminiscences of the ESS 2023 congress – Summer School

Summer School on “Polytrauma” Simulated Emergency Room, Lorenz Boehler Hospital, Vienna, 8th October 2019, 10 a.m.:

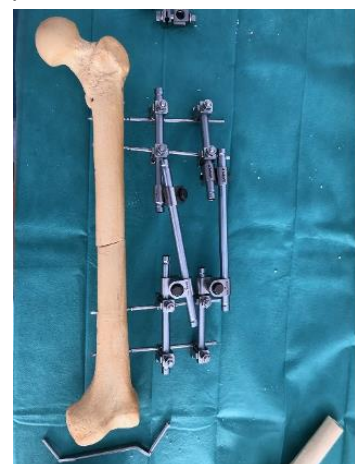
Around 20 enthusiastic ESS students took the challenge to join a simulated emergency setting at the summer school on polytrauma. The school was greatly organized by Johannes Zipperle from the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for Traumatology in Vienna and started with a historic journey from the very beginning of polytrauma treatment. Thomas Hausner, head of the AUVA Trauma Center Lorenz Boehler in Vienna, demonstrated amazing historic pictures of conservative and operative treatment of trauma patients from the very past to the present. He even provided hand-on patient charts and surgical textbooks from the last century. Afterwards, Markus Huber-Lang, trauma-surgeon and head of the Trauma-Immunology, University Hospital Ulm, introduced the principles of surgical polytrauma management, deduced from a deep pathophysiological understanding. His lecture was mirrored by the anesthesiological aspects of polytrauma management, lively presented by Christoph Schlimp, attending anesthesiologist of the AUVA Trauma Centre in Linz. After a short lunch break, we proceeded



Bedside teaching of rescue principles addressing the airways, breathing and circulation.

from theory to practical hands-on training. M. Huber-Lang and C. Schlimp simulated a clinically meaningful case of a polytraumatized young patient. The principles of anesthesiological and surgical first hour management were demonstrated and repeated by the students. In addition, advanced imaging of the “patient after polytrauma” was shown and various diagnostics were performed under a realistic time pressure condition. A pneumothorax was diagnosed and drained. Hemodynamic stabilization was achieved by infusion therapy and catecholamine support. The

hemodynamics reacted promptly and could be seen and heard by every attendee via the monitor in real-time (see figure). The clinical examination and the X-ray pictures revealed a femur fracture which was stabilized by a real external fixator on artificial bones. The results of the students’ operation were great (see figure). It was indeed a remarkable feat achieved by our young Shock researchers. In a parallel room, after learning the principles of how to draw blood, the students were trained to perform thrombelastometry and to interpret the graphs in healthy and pathophysiological conditions relevant in polytrauma. As a third station, Somareality, a company focusing on virtual reality (VR) education and digital biomarkers demonstrated their latest emergency personnel training. Participants had the unique chance to dive into the virtual version of an emergency situation and to learn which measures to take first when help is urgently needed. The ESS Summer School represented the kick-off event for the Congress of the European Shock



Hand-on result of the external fixator of the fractured femur – greatly mounted by the students.

Society and received overwhelmingly positive feedback from participants. We would like to thank all the organizers and sponsors for an unforgettable teaching day!



Interactive teaching input by Christoph Schlimp, Thomas Hausner (left) and Markus Huber-Lang (right).

Reminiscences of the ESS 2023 congress – Round Table with Past ESS Presidents – Q/A

Our ESS president, Marcin Osuchowski, and his team had the brilliant idea, framing the 40 years of the society, to feature a round table panel with invited past-presidents present at the Viennese congress. Thus, ten of us were put on stage and subjected to a flood of questions ranging from our very past experiences as presidents to the current place of ESS in the research landscape. In the context of the future of our society, one of the questions was of utmost relevance: *“Would you recommend young investigators to join ESS as a member?”*



Past ESS presidents sharing a Zacher cake after the session; (in the front, from left to right): Jan Goris, Markus Huber-Lang, Heinz Redl, Soheyl Bahrami, (at the back, from left to right): Uwe Brückner, Jean-Marc Cavaillon, Edmund Neugebauer, Christoph Thiernemann, Asgar Aasen.

With my many years of experience as investigator (as well as a former ESS president), I am happy to share a right answer with you:

ESS is a racemic mixture of scientist from a large variety of specialties - all fascinated, even mesmerized, by the enigma of shock, especially its sepsis-variant. Members of ESS performed seminal clinical and laboratory research leading to the concepts of SIRS (first published as *“generalized inflammation”*) (by Nijmegen and Vienna groups) and CARS (Munich group).

ESS is the only scientific society where I have always felt at ease. Members communicate openly, without any restraint. There is no place for ill-advised tact; if your data require improvement, you will certainly find that out. Yet, any constructive criticism is given with best intentions and is inspirational rather than demotivating. Furthermore, the adagium binding members together is an uncompromised open collaboration. If one asks for professional help, e.g. to perform some special laboratory test in another institute, access to samples, databases etc, this help is virtually always given, often accompanied by additional valuable suggestions.

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Similarly, the personal component cannot be overvalued. Within the ESS, I have found many dear friends for life and accumulated countless stories over the years of those great and heart-warming interactions. To recall just a single but very ESS-exemplary story: Once an ESS congress was organized in a conference resort deep in the woods of Scandinavia. After dinner, we (except my own, no other names disclosed) were eagerly looking for a bar. To our disappointment, there was none to be found and for the worse, the entire personnel had surprisingly disappeared. Without thinking much, we organized an ad hoc party on a landing between two stair levels by rearranging the furniture and screwing out most of the light bulbs (apparently the switches were controlled centrally) for a nice ambience. Then we gathered whatever drinks, peanuts, cracker supplies we had brought along and threw a lovely party, enjoying each other's company. Once the scarce goods were consumed, we further explored the building and discovered a sort of a ballroom with a piano. Without giving a second thought to it, one of us began playing Viennese waltzes and tangos. We ended dancing through the night and had fun of our lives!

Thus, do not give it a second thought and simply join ESS! As Nike states it: *"Just do it!"*
Join definitely for great science as well as for equally great fun... ESS=Energy, Science, Smile

Em Prof Dr RJA Goris (Jan)

Reminiscences of the ESS 2023 Congress – Patient Testimonial Session

This session had been resonating in my mind and heart long before it actually took place. Its creation was sparked by the retirement symposium of our dear clinical collaborator and friend, Herbert Schöchl, in the preceding year. I strongly felt that such a unique perspective, i.e. listening to testimonials of people who have been critically ill patients, would be a truly overarching bond to all types of scientists who devoted their lives to the pursuit of intensive care research, regardless whether on the basic cell level, translational stratum or at the bedside of an affected patient. Bringing this particular session to the ESS congress had taken plenty of effort and collaboration – I take this opportunity to once more sincerely thank all of those who contributed to its creation.



Highlights of the Patient Testimonial Session

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Without any doubt, however, the foremost gratitude goes to the two heroes of that session: Dennis Kredler from Belgium (sepsis survivor) and Paul Föll from Germany (polytrauma survivor). Both of them were very kind to address us again in this Newsletter.

Dennis: *I was asked to give a testimonial to the European Shock Society about my experience as a sepsis patient in the Intensive Care Unit in Belgium. I agreed to this immediately, because I hope that this kind of a testimonial will help doctors to gain insights into how their care is received and can leverage these insights in the spirit of continuous improvement. It was a great experience to share this presentation with the doctor (i.e. Antoine Herpain) who played such an important role in putting my treatment on the right track, and also with another impressive patient testimonial. (Dennis is Coordinator of the European Sepsis Alliance Policy and Stakeholder Engagement Working Group and serves as VP of the Global Sepsis Alliance).*

Paul: *Now in the aftermath, I have to say that the members of the European Shock Society are some of the nicest people I have ever met. My testimonial was met with great interest and concern for my well-being and I felt like I was really able to reach out to people. After the event I talked with countless congress participants, both about the accident itself and my time in the hospital as well as about the congress. Those conversations gave me an impression that these incredibly smart and hardworking individuals that I look up to are also just human beings. An impression that inspired me to try and work in the medical field as well. (Paul, 20 years old, native of Cologne, recently graduated from high school and plans to re-apply to medical school).*

It takes courage to speak to a large audience of medical and research professionals. Yet, this is enormously rewarding - both to the audience as well as speakers. Many of you, ESS congress participants, were visibly moved by their testimonials. Many asked questions directly to Dennis and Paul and several of you came to me after the session's end with words of gratitude for organizing it, telling me how touched you were (despite the fact that many of you are seasoned ICU physicians). I truly believe this experience will resonate in our hearts and minds for a long time and to the benefit of better-quality science and consequently countless critically ill patients and their families.

Dear Dennis and Paul, our deepest thanks and best wishes of health and success in your lives!

Please stay in touch.

Marcin Osuchowski

Reflections on the ESS 2023 Congress by Longstanding Members

by Christoph Thiemermann (Past-President of ESS, Honorary Member of ESS)



The ESS meeting in Vienna, expertly organised by Marcin Osuchowski and his team, was both scientifically and socially an outstanding event. I very much enjoyed catching up with my former presidential colleagues, some of whom I had not seen for many years. I truly enjoyed the outstanding presentations delivered by our junior colleagues in the Young Investigator Award session, all of which were of remarkable quality both in terms of science and delivery. It was very difficult to choose a winner, but Rebecca Halbgebauer very much deserved her award. I was extremely happy to see our first female president, Borna Relja, take office during the congress dinner and have no doubt that our society will grow from strength to strength under her stewardship. I am looking forward to supporting her in her new role and in her exciting, but somewhat daunting task, to organise the next ESS congress in Croatia. I have no doubt that this meeting in 2025 will be yet another outstanding success!

by Jean-marc Cavaillon (Past-President of ESS)



- The 20th congress of the ESS happened to be in Vienna. The first face-to-face meeting after the amazing COVID-19 pandemic and the excellent WEB conference organized from Athens in November 2021 by Evangelos Giamarellos-Bourboulis. Vienna was indeed the place to be to celebrate the end of the pandemic (see figure above), and I was delighted to walk to the Plague memorial.

The most important event occurred in Vienna: an election of Borna Relja, the first woman as the new president of ESS... 40 years after its creation! While we can be most delighted by this event, we cannot be proud that we had to wait 40 years for it! Borna's altruism is illustrated by her statement: ["It is my duty to pave the way for future generations of researchers."](#)



Prof. Borna Relja with three Past-Presidents, Markus Huber-Lang (left), Uwe Brückner (middle), and Jean-Marc Cavaillon (right)

- A scientific society allows a permanent relay between generations. Both, the youngest and the oldest share their eagerness to learn from the others through stimulating exchanges, finally leaving the place with new knowledge, new ideas, new hypotheses and an increased network of trustable and smart colleagues and new friends.
- A scientific society, such as ESS, is a peaceful and friendly place where all members and congress participants feel like in a cocoon of camaraderie and protected from the external world, which becomes more and more crazy (due to humans and climate changes), more and more aggressive, more and more depressing, more and more unfriendly.
- Marcin Osuchowski has to be congratulated for his successful meeting. Setting up a congress is a lot of work, a lot of stress, but when people enjoy the meeting and the social events, only good memories remain. Marcin also organized a sympathetic session with a large panel of past-presidents, an opportunity to make links between past, present and future.



Contributors to the “Round Table with Past ESS Presidents – Q/A” session (from left to right) Borna Relja (moderator, ESS President-Elect), Heinz Redl, Christoph Thiemermann, Markus-Huber Lang, Uwe Brückner, Edmund Neugebauer, Asgar Aasen, Jan Goris, Jean-Marc Cavaillon, Soheyl Bahrami and Marcin Osuchowski (moderator, ESS President)

by Antigoni Kotsaki (new Auditor of ESS)



European Shock Society is about the conflation of basic research and clinical science in an effort to unravel the mysteries behind the entity of Shock, Trauma and Sepsis. This difficult, often challenging, but powerful combination against these puzzles makes this society unique, and this was evident by the thematic pluralism, diversity, complexity accompanied by scientific excellence as depicted in the 20th ESS Congress in Vienna. Junior, as well as prominent scientists not just from Europe, but from other parts of the world, gathered for a conference that ultimately proved to be the epitome of updated scientific knowledge along with an exceptional social program.

ESS congress also celebrated its 40th anniversary, a remarkable milestone welcomed by the presence of past presidents who shared their experience and wisdom in an unforgettable session. Congress scientific program beside its mastery in combination of basic and clinical science was enriched with opportunities for junior scientists such as the European New Investigator Award Competition and the ESS Summer School.

But above all, I am allowed to say, the cornerstone of the congress' huge success was its people. A special thanks to the past President, Marcin Osuchowski, who made it all possible and orchestrated everything; after a long day full of knowledge, memorable events bringing together scientists across the world, sharing unique experiences like the organ concert at Jesuit Church. And the last night at the Vienna City Hall, I believe, was an experience no one will ever forget and Marcin with his enthusiasm made all the difference!

I also want to salute the new president with her unforgettable presence throughout the congress. The warmth but also passion of her speech accepting the presidency made us all feel that ESS will continue its successful trajectory along with the new ESS slogan: Energy, Smile, Science!!!

by Ingo Marzi (former treasurer of ESS)



Past-President Jan Goris (left) with Ingo Marzi (right) during the gala dinner

To me, Vienna is always associated with Shock! This is due to the decades of meetings such as the 'Wiener Schockgespräche' organized by Gunther Schlag and Heinz Redl up to this year's 20th Congress of the European Shock Society organized by Marcin Osuchowski. This year, the conference has really covered the curve from basic science via experimental research to clinical translational of shock and sepsis research. In particular - the role of exosomes and understanding of (X-)omics in polytrauma has met my current main interest along with our own research projects. Size and composition of the ESS members and participants are ideal for individual discussions and understanding. In addition, it is a nice side effect of meeting friends again, getting insights in their projects and restart cooperations. Finally, it is a perfect opportunity to introduce and meet new young researchers and to be proud to see one of my former coworkers - Borna Relja - being the new president of the ESS.

by Thanos Athanasios Chalkias



Thanos Athanasios Chalkias (left) with Christoph Schlimp (right)

Here are my reflection sentences:

- A sophisticated, innovative program including a great list of subjects, attractive topics and domains of interest.
- Many research-stimulating lectures and discussions.
- Left you with a feeling of frustration because one could not attend all of the panels and lectures since no one can be in two lecture halls at the same time.
- The number of participants reflected the level of power of attraction for the average physician-scientist.
- Great to see old friends and meet new colleagues.

by Jesús F Bermejo-Martín



Jesús F Bermejo-Martín (in the front).

The ESS meeting is always an opportunity to get updated on what is new in translational research in shock. In my view, this edition was particularly special since it provided a perfect balance of both basic and clinical research. This included very emotive moments as the participation of patients, who offered us their perspective and provided us with an additional motivation to get solutions to prevent and treat shock. The possibility of exchanging ideas and experiences with top researchers in this field during the lunch and social events was something, which really made the difference with other very large meetings. Overall, participating in this congress was a fantastic personal and professional experience. Looking forward to the next one in Croatia!

by Soheyl Bahrami (Past-President of ESS)



Past-Presidents, Markus Huber-Lang (left), and Soheyl Bahrami (middle), with the new President Borna Relja (right)

For the settlement of the ESS claims, the rejuvenation of the ESS during the last decades has been one of the most important developments. In line with this, the congress organizer Dr. Marcin Osuchowski made the most efforts to make the 20th ESS congress attractive to students and junior scientists. As one of the old folks, I have been very touched by the round-table session meeting some friends and former ESS presidents of the last 40 years. Considering the future, I feel very much comfortable, knowing that our president Dr. Borna Relja together with the council and new/young members will further develop the ESS to achieve its goals.

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by Andrea Szabó (General Secretary of ESS)



I am particularly happy that after several Vienna Shock Forums and ESS congresses, the jubilee congress could be held in 2023 in Vienna again. This year's congress, as in the past, was held to a high scientific standard, with a special Viennese atmosphere and great new program elements. Although I was kept informed about the preparations for the congress (and many of you were involved), I was unfortunately unable to attend in person this year. I could perceive Marcin's great enthusiasm and effort in every detail of the programme and I congratulate him from the bottom of my heart for a great organisation and huge success of the congress. Now, I see the same commitment in a young and energetic (and first ever) female President, Borna Relja. I am also delighted to see that the exchange of scientific ideas, the nurturing and mentoring of young scientists in the ESS continues to flourish.

Reflections on the ESS 2023 Congress by New Members

by Christian Bergmann (Councillor appointed by the President)



When thinking of the ESS Congress of 2023, there is one scene that I remember that sums up the whole character of the conference. I found myself (German) in an Irish bar, in the capital of Austria, lively discussing in English with two Greek, an Italian and a French scientist how to best plan and conduct clinical trials and use artificial intelligence to improve the treatment of patients. Unfortunately, it slipped me which country the beer came from... (I think it was Guinness...).

Although the scene did not occur during a scientific session (or maybe we just need to invent a new name for such discussions) it underlined the dedication of participants from all over Europe to improve what we do in our respective institutions.

A key highlight of the conference to me was the emphasis placed on the importance of artificial intelligence (AI) in research and hopefully soon in clinical practice. It underlined the importance of not only collecting data with consecutive selective interpretation but interpreting the complexity and interaction. While the gathering and interpretation of large volumes of data have become increasingly prevalent, it is crucial to harness the power of AI to analyze these datasets comprehensively and consider their complexities. The respective session underscored the need for collaboration between medical experts and data scientists. The session was well placed (and received) by everybody attending and inspired participants to further develop their respective knowledge in the field of AI supported data interpretation. However, recognizing that this partnership might lead to future collaborations on combined sessions with data scientists and medical researchers to leverage expertise effectiveness on both sides.

In our pursuit of medical advancements, it is essential to always keep the patients at the forefront of our minds. Personal experiences shared by a polytraumatized and a septic patient at the conference served as poignant reminders of the human aspect of our work. These stories highlighted the profound impact that compassionate and patient-centered care can have on recovery and outcomes. Amidst the often time consuming tasks in the everyday clinical and research duty the time to listen to our patients is unfortunately more often than not limited. I therefore experienced the testimonies as an encouragement to remain dedicated to delivering the highest standard of care and ensuring that patient needs are at the core of all our efforts.

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The shared expertise, insights, and experiences embedded in a beautiful and historic event location at Vienna University is a strong motivation to keep up the effort of improving trauma and sepsis management and I am looking forward to our next Meeting in Dubrovnik in 2025!

by Carsten P. Marcus and Stefan Hof (Universitätsklinikum Düsseldorf, Germany)



(From left to right) Anne Kübart, Carsten P. Marcus and Stefan Hof

Attending the ESS conference in Vienna for the first time was a truly great experience. The depth of knowledge shared by the speakers and presenters really deepened my understanding of some of the many facets of shock. What made the experience even more remarkable was the low-threshold communication with passionate and enthusiastic experts, as well as their constructive feedback in between the sessions. These talks could be intensified in the amazing evening program, which resulted in new friendships, new ideas and new good memories. Next to the scientific program, which involved outstanding researchers of many countries and disciplines, my personal highlight were the passionate first-hand talks of the „shock patients“ Mr. Kredler and Mr. Föll, which were not just impressive but touching.



Teams from the German Universities Ulm and Düsseldorf

Overall, the conference not only enhanced my knowledge but also introduced me to a network of amazing people, creating lasting memories and igniting a continued interest in the subject matter. I cannot wait for the next ESS conference in 2025!

by Ignacio Rubio (Jena University Hospital, Germany)



Ignacio Rubio (right) with Vicent Ribas (left) and Marcin Osuchowski (middle)

As a trained biochemist studying the molecular mechanisms of immune cell dysfunction in sepsis, it was not an obvious step for me to accept an invitation of my dear friend, Marcin Osuchowski, to consider joining the ESS. I finally did so, motivated by the expectation of broadening my horizon of clinical collaborators, and just in time to attend the last congress in Vienna. I can honestly say that not only did I manage to make numerous new connections and collaborations with incredibly enthusiastic colleagues, but I also had one of the most formative and lasting congress experiences ever. All the high quality presentations, the meet-the-patient session, the fascinating cultural programme, just the fantastic collegial and enthusiastic atmosphere everywhere... I would not even know how to rank all the highlights of the ESS meeting! I am just looking forward to more of the same and I am really glad I have followed Marcin's call!

by Vicent Ribas (Fundació Eurecat Centre Tecnològic de Catalunya, Spain)

The ESS 2023 has been an enriching experience, and I am delighted that our session, 'Technological Palantir: In Silico Modeling,' garnered significant interest and sparked a thought-provoking debate. Throughout the conference, I found the discussions on sepsis phenotyping particularly pertinent to my research. On a personal level, reconnecting with old friends from Greece, Belgium, Germany, and Italy, and forging new connections has not only been enjoyable but has also led to the exploration of novel research questions and potential collaborative projects.

The social events were a highlight, adding a vibrant and enjoyable dimension to the overall experience. I am looking forward to participating in future ESS events, as this conference has proven to be a source of inspiration and networking opportunities. In conclusion, I am grateful for saying "YES TO THE ESS!", and I look forward to the continued growth and collaboration within this dynamic community.



Celebrating Our New Council Members

by Anna Herminghaus (new Auditor of ESS)



As an anesthesiologist I perform clinical work in an operating theater as well as on the intensive care unit. Besides my activities as a clinician, I work as a scientist in the Department of Anesthesiology in Düsseldorf, Germany with the main focus on mitochondrial function in sepsis. That's the combination, that makes it! Taking care of septic patients, to watch how they recover and then to explore the mechanisms underlying the very complex pathophysiology of sepsis makes the work truly exciting.

I'm curious, I love challenges, I always set myself new goals. I follow the rule: life is like riding a bicycle - to keep your balance, you must keep moving!

Since I got in touch with the **ESS**, my research career received an extra boost! Talking to other persons who burn for research, the possibility of exchange of experience and ideas but also of sharing problems and moments of desperation make the hard work in science easier, more pleasurable, and more efficient. For me, the **ESS** is not only a platform for scientific exchange, but a group of friends that makes my work and life full of inspiration, positive energy, and motivation. I'm proud to be a new auditor of the **ESS**, thus gaining even more opportunities to support the main spirit of the **ESS: Energy, Science, and Smile!**



by Brendon P. Scicluna (new councillor of ESS)



Dear colleagues,

I am thrilled and honored to have been elected as Councilor of the European Shock Society. Serving in this capacity is a privilege, and I am devoted to developing the area of sepsis, trauma and shock medicine. I am excited to contribute to the society's purpose and to use this platform to increase our global visibility. Together, we can achieve important advances in research, education, and patient care, cementing our society's position as a major contributor in the field.

Before joining the University of Malta in 2022 as Senior Lecturer in the Department of Applied Biomedical Science, Faculty of Health Sciences, I held a tenured position at the respected Amsterdam University Medical Centre, University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, the Netherlands, as well as faculty position in the Centre for Experimental Molecular Medicine. Following my doctoral studies in 2010, I joined the infection, immunity and sepsis research lab of Prof. Dr. Tom van der Poll at the Amsterdam University Medical Centre, Amsterdam, The Netherlands. I participated in the Molecular Diagnosis and Risk Stratification in Sepsis (MARS) study, which enrolled over 8000 patients admitted to the Intensive Care Unit of two Dutch institutions, during the initial years of my postdoctoral fellowship. Throughout this time, I developed blood transcriptomics methods that resulted in the publication of multiple research papers delineating novel molecular biomarkers for pneumonia and intra-abdominal infections, in addition to a study that unveiled four molecular endotypes in patients with sepsis. I contributed to a research endeavor that identified the metabolic foundations of immune cells that define a state known as "immune paralysis" in patients with sepsis. In addition to clinical studies, I was eager to contribute to mechanistic studies, such as those employing mouse models of pneumonia-induced sepsis. My recent work has shown that circulating monocytes obtained from patients hospitalized due to community-acquired pneumonia, a major determinant of sepsis, manifested decreased cytokine production capacities that was explained considerably by an epigenetic and transcriptomic axis.

Since relocating to sunny Malta, and becoming a member of the academic community at the University of Malta, I have been honored with the Established Investigator Award from the European Society for Intensive Care Medicine in 2022. Presently, I am in charge of a prospective, non-interventional clinical investigation concerning the immune functional ramifications of molecular endotypes associated with sepsis. Furthermore, with the assistance of local financial support provided by the Malta Council for Science and Technology, I am enlisting senior citizens to partake in a research project aimed at elucidating the epigenetic topology of monocytes as it pertains to the aging immune system or immune senescence. In summary, I aspire for my forthcoming professional endeavors to yield novel insights in the realm of infection, immunobiology and sepsis immunology, which I will eagerly disseminate to the entirety of society. Thank you for this great opportunity to make a difference!

by Rebecca Halbgebauer (Councillor appointed by the President)



I am a postdoctoral fellow at the Institute of Clinical and Experimental Trauma Immunology at the University Hospital of Ulm in southern Germany. As a group leader, my work is mainly focused on elucidating the underlying pathomechanisms of barrier and organ dysfunction after trauma and/or hemorrhage in order to advance diagnostic and preventive strategies. My interests include trauma-

induced acute kidney injury (TRAKI), the role of adipose tissue after trauma, systemic inflammation, and the importance of hemorrhagic shock as a driver of post-traumatic barrier and organ injury. As a PhD in molecular medicine, I would like to see an even closer interaction between basic trauma research and clinical research. For this reason, I have been a part of the ESS for more than eight years and I love the unique composition of its members, which connects and facilitates the exchange between basic researchers and clinicians to enable a rapid clinical translation of our findings. When I am not in the lab, I enjoy traveling and hiking with my family.



by Christian Bergmann (Councillor appointed by the President)

Dear ESS community,

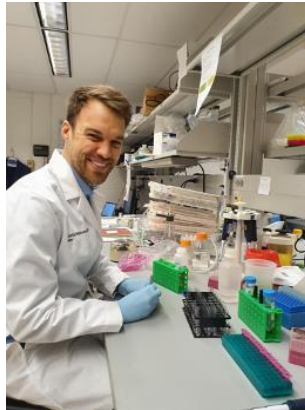
It is a pleasure and honor to introduce myself to this engaged and diverse community. Starting at the beginning of my medical and academic career I studied medicine at the Technical University Munich (TUM) in the Bavarian capital. I became interested in medical research very early on, so I started my doctorate in the 5th semester already interested to understand immune disorders in trauma. The pleasure of studying in such a beautiful city with the world-famous Oktoberfest made me stay. I progressed to starting my residency in the field of trauma surgery at TUM. I then wanted to intensify my knowledge regarding specifically the mechanistics of how traumatized and septic patients develop immunosuppression and changed my Lederhosen (yes, I do own a pair, everyone in Munich does!) to move to the United States and pursued a post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Cincinnati in Ohio. Although affected by the Covid-19 pandemic I enjoyed the opportunity to deepen my knowledge in the field of immune disorders especially in sepsis. Although strong ties overseas developed the time came to return to good old Europe where I continued my residency at Ulm University at the Department for Orthopedic Trauma Surgery. I had the opportunity to work as acting head of research for almost a year until the arrival of Prof. Borna Relja. It is my pleasure now to act as her deputy head and new ESS Council Member.

Scientifically I am interested to promote three fields. The first is to increase the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in research, as I believe this can become the greatest benefit to our patients in the last 30 years. Next, I would like to work on a better understand the complexity of immunological disorders as (too) many trials in the past have failed to address single markers or mechanisms. Third, I see a huge challenge to make research result in changed clinical practice. Many great ideas and results never become a (commercial) clinical application which by all means is challenging but motivates me being both in the role of a physician and researcher. I will put my time and effort to support the president and the ESS community to further develop these goals.

With this I would like to end my brief introduction and I am looking forward to learn from, help, shape, work, support, hear, celebrate with this awesome community.

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For a visual impression, if I am not doing this:



You might find me doing this these days:



by Antigoni Kotsaki (new Auditor of ESS)



I graduated from Athens Medical School in 2006. From 2006 I became a member of Hellenic Sepsis Study Group as a Scientific Associate at 4th Department of Internal Medicine at ATTIKON university general hospital with special interest in genetic of sepsis, cell culture and flow cytometry. I finished my PhD in 2012 with thesis focusing on “Genomic polymorphism in sepsis”. I finished my clinical specialty in Internal Medicine at 2015 and then worked as an Academic Scholar with special interest in conducting and supervising Clinical Trials especially in sepsis field. I finished my training as an Infectious disease specialist in 2020, and I am currently an Infectious Diseases consultant at 4th Department of Internal Medicine at ATTIKON University Hospital. In the context of my evolving interest for Clinical Trial I also completed MSc program in “Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics”, Medical School of Democritus University of Thrace. I also serve now as a Senior Clinical Research Associate at Hellenic Institute for the Study of Sepsis with main interests in clinical trials focusing on

molecular and pathophysiologic background of sepsis/viral sepsis manifestations. I also participate at several educational master programs, and training medical students at my university department, all this being a mom of two princesses!

I am excited that my journey with the ESS community continues as an auditor and really looking forward to contributing with all my efforts to fulfill ESS goals and be part of its great vision.

ESS 2023 Congress - Awardees

ENIAC (European New Investigator Award Competition)

Rebecca Halbgebauer (Germany)	ENIAC 1st Prize
Andre van der Wurff (Germany)	ENIAC 2nd Prize
Maria Evangelia Adami (Greece)	ENIAC 3rd Prize
Attila Rutai (Hungary)	ENIAC finalist
Naimeh Hashemi (Austria)	ENIAC finalist

European Shock Society (ESS) Presidential Awards

Mouna Ben Azaiz (Tunisia)
Sidnéia Sousa Santos (Brazil)

ENIAC finalists



Upper row (from left to right): Naimeh Hashemi, Rebecca Halbgebauer, Andre van der Wurff, Maria Evangelia Adami and Borna Relja; Lower row (from left): Attila Rutai and Marcin Osuchowski

ESS Presidential Awards



(From left to right) Borna Relja, Mouna Ben Azaiz, Sidnéia Sousa Santos and Marcin Osuchowski

ESS Travel Awards

Maria Evangelia Adami (Greece)	Carsten Marcus (Germany)
Rebecca Halbgebauer (Germany)	Antonia Mortsch (Germany)
Naimeh Hashemi (Germany)	Attila Rutai (Hungary)
Marcela Hortova-Kohoutkova (Czech Republic)	André van der Wurff (Germany)
Sarah Kröller (Germany)	Ling Xiong (Germany)

ESS Best Poster Awards

Trauma/injury: Sergejs Zavadskis (Austria)
Sepsis/infection: Ling Xiong (Germany)
Inflammation/coagulation/mechanisms: Johannes Zipperle (Austria)

ESS Travel Awards



Upper row (from left to right): Borna Relja, Naimeh Hashemi, Rebecca Halbgebauer, Antonia Mortsch, Sarah Kröller, Maria Evangelia Adami, Marcela Hortova-Kohoutkova. Lower row (from left to right): Attila Rutai, André van der Wurff, Marcin Osuchowski. Adrian Press (for Ling Xiong) and Carsten Marcus

Best Poster Awards



From left to right: Borna Relja, Sergejs Zavadskis, Johannes Zipperle, Adrian Press (for Ling Xiong) and Marcin Osuchowski

Günther Schlag Memorial Award

Former LBI Trauma director Heinz Redl handed the prestigious Günther Schlag Memorial Award to **Dr. Anna Herminghaus** from the University Clinic of Düsseldorf, Germany. The Award is bestowed biennially in memory of the very first director of the LBI Trauma institute. It aims to recognize not only a scientific merit of a mid-career awardee, but also his/her enthusiasm, exemplary work ethics and collegial spirit.

SACAs (Specialty Area Company Awards):

Amanda de la Fuente (Spain)
Tobias Jooss (Germany)
Caroline O'Riordan (UK)
Astrid Laimer-Digruber (Austria)

Awarded by Pharm-Analyt, Baden, Austria
Awarded by Somareality, Vienna, Austria
Awarded by Trauma Care Consult, Vienna, Austria
Awarded by TamiRNA, Vienna, Austria

Günther Schlag Memorial Award



From left to right: Heinz Redl (LBI Trauma), Anna Herminghaus (GSA recipient), Marcin Osuchowski and Borna Relja

SACAs



Upper row (from left): Paul Slezak (Trauma Care Consult) and Caroline O'Riordan; Borna Relja; Tobias Jooss and Michel Varilek (Somareality); Jesus Bermejo-Martin for Amanda de la Fuente and Hermann Mascher (Pharm-Analyt); Lower row (from left): Astrid Laimer-Digruber and Matthias Hackl (TamiRNA); Marcin Osuchowski

An UPDATED invitation to publish in SHOCK®



Dear ESS members and friends,

Our last ESS congress in Vienna 2023 showed fantastic work from scientists all over Europe. Where do you publish your work? I think “**SHOCK**” is a great journal to publish your novel insight into the mechanisms underlying the pathophysiology of sepsis, injury, and related inflammatory diseases. It could be a platform to highlight the research of our ESS community. Unfortunately, the submissions from Europe have declined during the last years. Maybe, you are not aware of recent changes at **SHOCK**? There is a new SIMple Submit method that allows an easy and fast submission process just with a single PDF.

Moreover, **the publication fee is waived for all ESS members**. Actually, on average it takes only 13 d from submission to a first decision after review. Thus, next time when your data are complete for preparing the manuscript or when you have an idea for a special issue topic or review article please consider to publish in **SHOCK**. For any questions you are welcome to contact me, Stefanie Flohé, Deputy Editor (stefanie.flohe@uk-essen.de)



MINUTES – GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Saturday, September 23, 2023; 13:45-14:45 CET
AudiMax, Universität Wien, Vienna, Austria



General assembly started at 13:45; present: 28 ESS members (including members from the Executive Committee)

TOP 1: Welcome from the President: Marcin Osuchowski

MO welcomed everyone to the General Assembly and expressed his delight at the large number of participants and he thanked to all those who contributed to the successful organization of the congress. He offered a warm welcome to new members and welcomed them to the ESS community. He finally stated that the General Secretary, Andrea Szabo, cannot attend the General Assembly and the Minutes will be drafted by Antigoni Kotsaki.

TOP 2: Approval of the Agenda

Agenda was sent to the ESS members in due time before the General Assembly; no further suggestions were received.

The Agenda was unanimously approved

(Votes cast: 28: yes: 28; no: 0; abstain: 0)

TOP 3: Approval of the Minutes of the 2021 online meeting

Minutes were sent to the members in due time before the meeting.

The Minutes were unanimously approved

(Votes cast: 28: yes: 28; no: 0; abstain: 0)

TOP 4: General Secretary Report: Andrea Szabó (the ppt, prepared by AS, was presented by Marcin Osuchowski)

Communication within the Board occurred via frequent e-mail exchanges during the period 2021-2023 including these main topics: 1) decisions and votes on events to be endorsed by the Society, 2) Discussion on the Newsletters, 3) Reports on the financial situation of the current congress by The President, 4) Proposals for personnel changes within the Council (see also TOP10-15 of the present agenda).

- (1) Membership: 12 new members recruited in 2021-2023 (after the date of the online meeting). Currently: 50 paying members including student members. Certain long standing members have not renewed their membership yet.
- (2) The ESS website continued to be managed by the General Secretary. Here you will find a statement condemning the war in Ukraine, a publication (co-authored by Marc Maegele) representing the ESS, a historical overview of the Society's congresses and history, which is an important element of this congress. ESS also endorses congresses of other societies through the ESS website. A new element has also been added to the members' database, as those who register in the database will also receive up-to-date information on their membership status and the exact date of payment of their membership fee. The possibility of online payment of membership fees is currently being developed.
- (3) Newsletters: 2 newsletters were published since the online meeting in 2021. Next newsletter will appear after the Vienna Congress 2023.
- (4) Cooperation societies: ESS is member of the Global Sepsis Alliance (since 2013) and endorses its activity (by forwarding GSA initiatives to ESS members and by posting relevant content on the ESS website); Marc Maegele remains an ESS representative of the ABC-Trauma initiative; Evangelos

Giamarellos-Bourboulis still serves as a member of the steering committee of the European Sepsis Alliance (since 2019). ESS also endorses ESTES and ESOT events.

TOP 5: Treasurer Report: Marc Maegele

There was a detailed presentation about all relevant aspects (handover procedure, audit report, congress donation, balance, conference budget), followed by discussion. No issues were noted.

- (1) Current balance as of 06.09.2023: 69.995,24 Euro (congress costs, fees and invoices from ESS Vienna 2023 yet to be deducted!)
- (2) Balance fiscal year 2021: Balance after ESS Greece on-line conference 49.586,82 Euros, Ins 2.545 Euros from membership fees (2.045 Euros) + Donation Anna Herminghaus (500 Euros)
- (3) Balance fiscal year 2022: Ins 400 Euros from membership fees against Outs 1.651,66 for Account fees, Webhosting Services and ESS 2023 Abstract collection fees leaving a balance of – 1.251,66 Euros
- (4) Balance fiscal year 2023: Ins 26.557 Euros from membership fees, ESS 2023 conference support by AUVA (21.000 Euros) and Institute Merieux (2.000 Euros) against Outs 7.441,92 Euros for Account fees, Membership fees to IFSS (200 Euros), Webhosting Services and 2023 ESS Congress costs for advertising and pre-payment for the ESS Gala dinner (4.000 Euros) leaving a balance of +19.115,08

Auditor's reports from Sina Coldewey and Mihaly Boros were presented stating "no reservations" against the treasurer's report.

TOP 6: Acceptance and Approval: Annual report and financial statement

Votes cast: 28: yes: 27; no: 0; abstain: 1

TOP 7: Discharge of the Presiding Committee

Dr. Marcin Osuchowski asked the members to discharge the Presiding Committee

Votes cast: 28: yes: 27; no: 0; abstain: 1

TOP 8: Future prospects of the ESS (Borna Relja)

The infusion of new members, particularly young investigators, and the simplification of the membership process are essential for the ESS's growth, vitality, and relevance. By embracing new talent and making it easier for individuals to join, the ESS can ensure that it remains a dynamic force in advancing the field of sociology. A few key points to consider for the ESS future:

- (1) **Renewed Energy and Fresh Perspectives:** New members bring fresh energy, ideas, and perspectives. By encouraging young investigators and new members to join, the ESS can infuse its community with the dynamism that comes with "fresh blood".
- (2) **Diverse Expertise:** New members are welcome with different areas of specialization and research interests.
- (3) **Long-Term Sustainability:** Our sustainability relies on the continuous influx of new members, but also experienced members, who contribute to the stability and continuity of the ESS.
- (4) **Simplifying the process of becoming a member:** Simplifying formal memberships through the ESS website may remove barriers for potential members.

TOP 9: SHOCK Journal and related topics: Daniel G. Remick

There was an extensive presentation including monthly rate of manuscripts submitted /accepted, journal's impact factor, journal's reviewers, deputy editors, challenges for 2023-2024, protocol for investigating scientific misconduct, Shock Success metrics. Finally, a suggestion was made to encourage authors when submitting a manuscript to include Shock references from the preceding 2 years to support the IF of the journal. There was also a discussion whether ESS will be involved in the renewing of Shock contract.

TOP 10: Election: President-Elect

Suggestion: Marc Maegele. No further suggestions

Election: Votes cast: 32: yes: 31; no: 0; abstain: 1

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Marc Maegele accepted the vote

TOP 11: Approval of the appointment: General Secretary

The term of the General Secretary expires in 2023. A new General Secretary can be appointed or the previous one be appointed for a second term (till 2027). Andrea Szabó previously agreed on her appointment via e-mail.

Suggestion: Andrea Szabó has been appointed by the Executive Committee. No further suggestions

Appointment: Votes cast: 33: yes: 31; no: 0; abstain: 0

TOP 12: Approval of the appointment: Treasurer (Sina Coldewey)

Since Dr. Maegele has been elected as President-Elect, the Treasurer position became available. Sina Coldewey has been appointed by the Executive Committee. Sina Coldewey previously agreed on her appointment via e-mail. No further suggestions

Appointment: Votes cast: 33: yes: 32; no: 0; abstain: 1

Sina Coldewey accepted the position

TOP 13: Election/Re-election: Councillors

Re-election: Federico Aletti. No further suggestions.

Election: Votes cast: 33: yes: 32; no: 0; abstain: 1

Federico Aletti accepted the position

Election: Brendon Scicluna. No further suggestions.

Election: Votes cast: 33: yes: 32; no: 0; abstain: 1

Brendon Scicluna accepted the position

TOP 14: Councillors appointed by the President

New President Borna Relja presented the new local councillors: Rebecca Halbgebauer and Christian Bergmann.

TOP 15: Election: Auditors

Since Sina Coldewey has been elected as the new Treasurer and Mihály Boros wishes to step down, therefore two auditor positions have become available.

Suggestion: Anna Herminghaus. No further suggestions.

Election: Votes cast: 33: yes: 32; no: 0; abstain: 1

Anna Herminghaus accepted the position

Suggestion: Antigoni Kotsaki. No further suggestions.

Election: Votes cast: 33: yes: 32; no: 0; abstain: 1

Antigoni Kotsaki accepted the position

TOP 16: ESS Congress 2025 (Borna Relja)

Next president, Borna Relja, announced that the 21st Congress of the European Shock Society is planned to take place in Dubrovnik, Croatia. The preliminary dates for this event are scheduled for September 19th to 21st, 2025.

TOP 17: Open issues & notions None

TOP 18: Transfer of ESS Presidency

Presidency was handed over to the new ESS President Borna Relja by Marcin Osuchowski. (The plaque including the names of the ESS Past-Presidents was given to the new President during the Gala Dinner later on the same day).

Meeting closed at 14:45

Drafted by: Antigoni Kotsaki

Upcoming Events



2024 Critical Care Congress

January 21-23, 2024,

Phoenix, Arizona

<https://www.sccm.org/Annual-Congress/critical-care-conference>



2nd EuroAfrica Conference Cairo

February 8-11, 2024, Cairo, Egypt

<https://www.esicm.org/events/euroafrica-2024/>



ISICEM 2024 – 43rd International Symposium on Intensive Care and Emergency Medicine

March 19-22, 2023, Brussels, Belgium

<https://www.isicem.org/1/Home.asp>



23rd European Congress of Trauma & Emergency Surgery (ECTES)

April 28-30, 2024, Lisbon, Portugal

<https://www.estes-congress.org/>





The Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions (SCAI)

SCAI 2024 Scientific Sessions

May 2-4, 2024, Long Beach, California

<https://scai.org/education-and-events/events-schedule/scai-2024-scientific-sessions>

2024
Long Beach, Calif. MAY 2-4
Scientific Sessions



1st EuroMed Conference

May 15-18, 2024, Marrakech, Morocco

<https://www.esicm.org/events/euromed-2024/>



European Congress on Surgical Infections (SIS-E)

May 15-17, 2024, Barcelona, Spain

<https://sis-e.org/2024/>



LIVES Forum Conference

May 30-June 01, 2024, Istanbul, Turkey

<https://www.esicm.org/events/lives-forum-extracorporeal-organ-support-therapies-istanbul/>



47th Annual Conference on Shock

June 1-4, 2024, PGA National Resort, Palm Beach Gardens, Florida

<https://www.shocksociety.org/future-meetings>



ESICM, jointly organized the Indian Society of Critical Care Medicine (ISCCM)

7th EuroAsia Conference

June 21-23, 2024, Bengaluru, India

<https://www.esicm.org/events/euroasia-2024/>



37th Annual Congress - LIVES

October 05-09, 2024, Barcelona, Spain

<https://www.esicm.org/events/euroasia-2024/>



SCAI 2024 Scientific Sessions

October 17-19, 2024,
Washington, D.C.

<https://scai.org/education-and-events/events-schedule/2024-scai-shock>



8th E.S.T.R.O.T. CONGRESS

European Society of Tissue Regeneration in
Orthopedics and Traumatology

June 12-14, 2024, Helsinki, Finland

<https://www.estrot.org>



ESOT Congress 2023

June 29-July 2, 2025, London, UK

<https://esot.org/esot-events/esot-congress-2025/>



by Andrea Szabó

The executive committee of ESS



The President:



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The President-Elect: (elected 2023)



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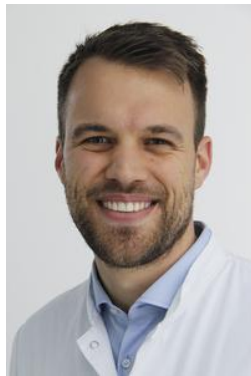
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