

Motivation Letter - Candidacy for Vice President, ESC Election 2024

For over 20 years I have been a member of the ESC and have served its goals in multiple functions and tasks. In the course of this service I have learnt to esteem the spirit of the Society and to advocate its values and objectives that are driven by scientific excellence as much as medical passion.

Moreover, I learnt that the collaborative principles of our work, the trust and friendship in academic and personal exchange are the most valuable base for both the success and the fulfilment of the voluntary work for our Society.

My activities in the European Society of Cardiology

- Member of the ESC Congress Program Committee (topic "Stroke"), 2014-2020
- Chair of the HFA Committee on Comorbidities in HF, 2014-2020
- Secretary of the EAPC Nucleus on Cardiac Rehabilitation, 2016-2020
- Founding member of the Council on Stroke, 2016 - current
- Coordinator of the Cardiovascular Round Table on "Stroke as interdisciplinary challenge", 2018
- Chair of the ESC Council on Stroke (chair elect, 2016-18, Chairman, 2018-20, Chair past, 2020-22)
- Member as ESC representative of the ESO Working group on Brain and Heart 2018-2024 (current)
- Chair of the Stroke Council Program Committee of the Conference "ESC Heart & Stroke" 2019-2021
- Co-chair of the Scientific Documents Committee of the Council on Stroke, 2020-2022
- Ex officio member of the Nucleus of the Council on Stroke, 2022-24
- Member of Oversight committee of the Stroke prevention education program STEER AF, 2021-23 (current)
- Member of the Nucleus of the EAPC Section on Cardiac Rehabilitation 2020-2022
- Member of the Board of the council on hypertension 2020-2022
- Co-Chair of the Program Committee of the Congress on Heart Failure 2020 & World Congress on Acute Heart Failure 2020
- Member of the task force for the 2023 ESC Guidelines on Endocarditis, 2021-2023
- Member of the HFA Committee on cardiorenal comorbidities and on frailty, 2022 - 24
- Member of the Editorial Board of the Journal ESC Heart failure, 2014- current
- Member of the Board of the ESC (Councillor), 2022-2024 (current)
- Chair of the joint Collaboration Group of ESC and European Association of Neurology (EAN), 2022-to date
- Appointed executive editor of the European Journal of Preventive Cardiology (3/2024).

My motivation for the work in the Board of the ESC

I have the privilege to serve as Councillor in the current board of the ESC. In this position I gained deeper understanding and was involved in the governance and strategic development of the ESC in the times immediately after the COVID pandemic. I am aware of the importance to position the ESC in a fast developing world as a leading health care authority and at the same time to ensure economic stability and prosperity of the ESC in order to fulfil our academic targets. As founding member and leader of the Council on stroke I was significantly involved in establishing the Stroke Council as a very active and well-integrated partner within the ESC family and to develop fruitful interdisciplinary academic co-operations with partner societies of the ESC (such as ESO, EAN, ESVS, WSO).

I am applying for the Vice President position because I am dedicated to continue my work for our Society and to contribute significantly to the goals of the ESC. The ESC is an extraordinary society with a strong history of commitment to medical science and education. Having actively contributed to ESC activities for more than 10 years, I am aware of the expectations that candidates for this senior office of ESC should fulfil regarding commitment to ESC and its principles. In applying to become Vice president of the ESC, I express my sincere dedication to work for the goals of the ESC to the best of my capability in order to further strengthen the ESC and contribute to its prosperity on all levels.

My aspired contribution to the ESC

The ESC is a worldwide leading medical professional society with a tremendous influence on clinical development, research, education and health advocacy. However, the ESC has to take on the uncertainties of the changing world, including economic challenges, environmental concerns, escalating cardiovascular health risks, and an aging population, all of which profoundly impact on cardiovascular care and therefore on the mission of the ESC.

A major strength of our society is the combination of diversity and community: the wide spectrum of specialty topics that are combined in a big academic family of associations, councils and working groups. To further develop this community and to strengthen the interdisciplinary collaboration both within the ESC and with partner societies will be a key factor for the continued strength of the ESC as leader of the medical community in the world.

A pillar of the ESC is the partnership and collaboration with the National Cardiac Societies. To further strengthen this collaboration will be an important factor for the continued success and growing recognition of the ESC in its membership countries and beyond.

And most important: The work in our Society is driven by the dedication and enthusiasm of numerous volunteers. During my work in the ESC I have been involved with multiple functions and activities of associations, councils and working groups of the society and I have contributed to establish collaborations with partner societies for interdisciplinary collaborations of the ESC (see above). I have a good understanding of the importance of integrative leadership and collaborative principles to achieve our goals. I am confident that my academic engagement and network within the ESC community and beyond may be of great value to facilitate the work in a leading role in the ESC.

I am aware of the responsibility and privilege to be considered for the position of Vice-President of the ESC and it would be an honor and a pleasure to continue working for the ESC in the future.

Berlin, 22. February 2024