



European Society for Trauma and Emergency Surgery (ESTES)

Association sans but lucratif (ASBL)

www.estesonline.org

President

Prof. Dr. Hans-Christoph Pape
(Aachen, Germany)
hpape@ukaachen.de

Past President

Prof. Dr. Ari Leppäniemi
(Helsinki, Finland)
Ari.Leppaniemi@hus.fi

President Elect

Prof. Dr. Jonathan Tilsed
(Beverley, United Kingdom)
tilsed@doctors.org.uk

Vice-President

Prof. Dr. Eric Voiglio
(Lyon, France)
eric.voiglio@chu-lyon.fr

General Secretary

Prof. Dr. Pol Maria Rommens
Dept. of Trauma Surgery
University of Mainz
Langenbeckstr. 1
55131 Mainz
Germany
pol.rommens@unimedizin-mainz.de

Treasurer

Prof. Dr. Hayato Kurihara
(Milan, Italy)
hayato.kurihara@gmail.com

Editor-in-Chief EJTES

Prof. Dr. Ingo Marzi
(Frankfurt, Germany)
marzi@trauma.uni-frankfurt.de

Message from the President

Dear colleagues and members of ESTES,

It has been an honor and privilege to serve as your president for the past year. The emphasis in the Executive Board has been in the updating of the bylaws to better reflect the reality of ESTES as it is today. In addition, the educational activities of the sections have been outstanding and expanding to the many fields represented within ESTES. At the time of writing this (early April 2015), our annual meeting is still ahead and many challenges still remain to be solved.

As incoming president I listed some tasks we had ahead of us at the time. Let's see what we have accomplished:

The **new bylaws** (if they are accepted at the General Assembly in May, and I hope and trust that they will) have three kinds of changes; some are technical (as required by the Belgian law where we are registered) and some clarifying, but the most important ones are the political or strategic changes. One of the most important is the change in the voting system at the General Assembly (Article 11). The proposed changes take into account the relative weight (number of members) of the national societies but at the same time preserve the democratic rights of the smaller societies as well as individual members. The second important issue is the role and representation of the national societies and entities (collectively as institutional members). Instead of the Large Board (whose name always caused confusion and became too large for practical purposes with the addition of so many institutional members), an Advisory Council is created (articles 12 and 14). It is represented by institutional members and sections, and has both independent objectives (such as starting and supervising national and international initiatives) and an advisory role (advising the Executive Board). The other changes in the bylaws are mostly technical clarifying the election and voting system of the office holders, specifying the duties of the Vice President, etc. Finally, a new member category is created, so called corresponding societies, who do not qualify for full institutional members (located outside Europe, other professional entities, etc.) but are willing to cooperate in areas of mutual interest.

For the last year, the work of the **Education Committee** has been dormant (for understandable reasons), but I am sure that in the future it will fulfill its role as one of the most important activities of ESTES. Especially, I would like to see more input of the Committee in inserting pedagogical and educational expertise into our courses, as well as being actively involved in the planning of the scientific program of our future congresses. Until now, too much burden has been on the local organizers with too little input from the ESTES Executive Board and Education Committee. This must be changed in the future.

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The **sections** have been busy (some more, some a little less) in organizing educational activities that will have an even larger role in the future promoting the objectives of ESTES in its many fields of interest. A new section—polytrauma—has been established and will have its organizational meeting in Amsterdam. I also want to mention a few courses that have made great progress in the last year. The MUSEC course under the enthusiastic leadership of Mauro Zago and his team has expanded rapidly and its structure and organization are now much clearer than in the past. The European Trauma Course with Eric Voiglio and Pol Rommens (to be replaced by Carlos Mesquita in the future) representing ESTES has also expanded, produced a new manual, and needs to have more surgical input in the future. The Emergency Surgery Course (ESC) has finally found its structure and organization and with the major strategic move to join forces with our North American friends (AAST) seems to have a bright future. There is also a strong initiative on the European level to clarify and institutionalize the field, mandate and training of Emergency Surgery, and ESTES under the leadership of Jonathan Tilsed is actively involved in the process further developed in a meeting of interested parties in Berlin.

The *European Journal of Trauma and Emergency Surgery* under the solid leadership of Ingo Marzi is maturing rapidly into an important contributor in its field. It is our great pleasure to announce that our journal was recently included in PubMed. This is fantastic news and will help to increase the importance of the journal. A special thanks goes to all authors and reviewers who contribute heavily to the success of the journal.

As a sign that ESTES has become an important player in its field both in Europe and world-wide can be seen in the increasing requests to participate in **international initiatives** in trauma care, prevention programs, etc. Furthermore, more and more national societies are applying for institutional membership of ESTES, and many meetings seek ESTES endorsement. In addition, there are ongoing **scientific projects** endorsed by ESTES.

The **financial situation** of ESTES is solid for the moment and our Treasurer Hayato Kurihara is doing an excellent job together with the ESTES office and Mondial to keep us financially healthy. There are, however, a couple of dark clouds on the horizon: First, the sponsorship from industry especially in view of our **annual meeting** is becoming more endangered due to many reasons, including increasing regulations, the global financial situation, and more targeted sponsorship of the companies, just to mention a few. The concept of preferred partnership needs to be expanded and at the same time the local professional institutional and also preferably governmental support for future ESTES congresses must be solid and play an important role when future congress locations are selected. Finally, the income from **membership fees** of individual and institutional members is an important source of income that should not decrease.

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Overall, however, the **future** of ESTES looks bright and I am utterly convinced that the challenges will be met head on by the new leadership to which I like to extend my warmest wishes of good luck! After moving to the shadows (☺) after my term as your President, it is always a great pleasure to **thank** all (impossible put I will try) who have made my life much easier during the last year. The Executive Board has been very effective in fulfilling its leadership role and every member has spent numerous hours of their own time, not just participating in the Board meetings, but working at the office and at home to fulfill their many duties. So, Pol, Luke, Eric, Chris, Hayato, and Ingo, thank you very much for your hard work, commitment and friendship! The staff at Mondial has done an excellent job in keeping everything running, and I want to personally thank all and especially Daniela for doing an outstanding job in keeping everything under control, being patient with us, and making sure that minutes and practical aspects of our meetings have been organized properly to the finest details. It is also important to appreciate the sometimes not so visible work that many of our members of sections, committees, and courses do every day to promote the objectives of ESTES, keep up the good work! And last but not least, I am extremely grateful to the members of ESTES for making this society what it is today. It has been truly an honor to serve as your President, one of the highlights of my career. Thank you all very much!

Ari Leppäniemi
President ESTES

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Message from the Secretary General

Dear colleagues and friends,

On February 28, 2015, we had a very busy yet fruitful executive board meeting at the Frankfurt Airport Conference Center. Numerous topics were discussed, and some of them will be presented at the General Assembly on May 12th in Amsterdam.

The Pan-Cyprian Association of Trauma and Emergency Surgery with 40 members and the Israeli Trauma Society with 139 members have applied for institutional membership in ESTES. After the documents were screened and approved, both requests were forwarded to the General Assembly.

There have been informal contacts with founding members of the British Orthopaedic Trauma Association to determine if interest for institutional membership existed. Great Britain is one of the larger European Countries not represented by institutional membership in ESTES. There should be a mutual interest to change this. Especially the experience with the recently introduced regionalization of trauma care in England and Wales have been very interesting for ESTES.

The newly designed MUSEC logo was approved by the executive board and is in the process of European mark registration. The European Trauma Course Organization (ETCO) has been established as an international nonprofit organization seated in Belgium. It is responsible for the organization and the quality control of the European Trauma Courses (ETC) and the European Trauma course manual. A total of 68 courses were successfully organized in 2014, more than ever before. As there is a continuously high interest in these courses, the number of ETC will continue to be increased. With Eric Voiglio and Carlos Mesquita, ESTES is represented by two persons on the ETCO board.

A memorandum of understanding was signed between ESTES and the American Association for the Surgery of Trauma (AAST) to collaborate on the development of an Emergency Surgery Course (ESC) and ESC manual. Once the manual has been finished and published, this 3-day modular course will be offered to ESTES members to enhance their theoretical and practical skills in the treatment of nontrauma surgical emergencies.

ESTES organized a symposium on treatment of severely injured patients at the 2nd congress of the Pan-Ukrainian Association of Traumatology and Osteosynthesis in Kiev on April 25th. As in previous years, ESTES was also present at the EFORT annual meeting in Prague with a symposium on fragility fractures on May 27th. Similarly, ESTES is preparing another symposium at the international day of the German Congress of Orthopedics and Traumatology (DKOU) in Berlin in October.

The conditions for application of the visceral trauma fellowship have been revised and amended. They will be published in our website and in our journal.

The websites of the Society and of the annual meetings (ECTES) have been integrated into one, which will be the responsibility of our administrative office in Vienna.

ESTES has been asked by the Board of Surgery of the “Union européenne des médecins spécialistes” (UEMS) to prepare a curriculum for and definition of a “transferable competence of emergency surgery”, which will be established. Under the leadership of Jonathan Tilsed, the chair of the emergency surgery section of ESTES, an ad hoc committee has worked intensively to develop such a document. After discussion in the executive board, this proposal was presented at the meeting of the UEMS Board of Surgery in Berlin on March 27–28, 2015. The reactions were very positive and it seems that preparations to set up an emergency surgery section will advance quickly. With Jonathan Tilsed as a founding member and chair of this section, ESTES can be assured that it will be involved intensively in all further steps. If everything proceeds well, the first exams of candidates for the transferable competence emergency surgery will be taken on the occasion of ECTES 2016 in Vienna.

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An important part of the executive board meeting on February 28th was dedicated to the preparation of the extraordinary General Assembly on May 11th in Amsterdam. The only topic on the agenda of this meeting was the change of bylaws. After a broad discussion with our members and the General Assembly Meeting on October 31, 2014, in Berlin, we were well prepared for the final discussion and voting. The bylaws were finally approved in the extraordinary General Assembly. We are convinced that the new structure of ESTES will enable better communication between the governing bodies and more flexibility, creativity and initiatives from the sections and boards.

With kind regards,

Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Pol M. Rommens
ESTES Secretary General

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Médecins Sans Frontières (= Doctors Without Borders)



Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) is an international humanitarian medical organization offering orthopedic care in two major trauma centers: one in Haiti and the other in Afghanistan. In these trauma centers, there are annually more than 4,500 surgical interventions, e.g., internal fixations, external fixations, and amputations when necessary.

Thanks to their professional experience, expatriate orthopedic surgeons train, coach, and exchange knowledge with the local surgeons in order bring them to more autonomy in the MSF projects and then, in their own country.

If you are interested in joining MSF or if you would like to obtain more information on our orthopedic activities, please go to www.orthosurgeon.msf.org.

For further questions, please contact Ms. Géraldine Taeymans (Medical.FieldRecruitment@brussels.msf.org).



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European Society for Trauma and Emergency Surgery (ESTES) Section for Surgical Research Graz, Medical University of Graz

in cooperation with the

International Association for the Surgery of Trauma and Surgical Intensive Care (IATSIC)

DEFINITIVE SURGERY FOR TRAUMA CARE-DSTC™

September 21–22, 2015

The symposium provides an ideal mix of the standard-of-care principles with cutting edge and forward-moving practices. It explores issues related to resuscitation and surgical technique. The workshop has theory sessions in the morning and hands-on sessions in the afternoon. It provides in-depth and cutting-edge information in the field of visceral injuries.

Course director:	Prof. Dr. S. Uranues
Course language:	English
Course location:	Department of Surgery, Auenbruggerplatz 29, 8036 Graz, Austria
Registration fee:	€ 850.00 € 775.00 for members of ESTES and IATSIC member societies
Registration:	e-mail to i.prassl@medunigraz.at , fax: +43 (0) 316 385 16845

More information:

<http://www.chirurgischeforschung.at/de/viszeraltrauma-ws.html>

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Announcements

Upcoming related congresses & courses

34th Annual Meeting of the European Bone and Joint Infection Society

Estoril, Lisboa, Portugal

September 10–12, 2015

www.ebjis2015.org

Workshop on Trauma to Visceral & Gastrointestinal Organs/DEFINITIVE SURGICAL TRAUMA CARE-DSTC™

Graz, Austria

September 21–22, 2015

<http://www.chirurgischeforschung.at/de/viszeraltrauma-ws.html>

XVI. Congress of the European Shock Society

Cologne, Germany

September 24–26, 2015

<http://www.ess-cologne2015.de>

National Trauma Congress of the Czech Republic

Brno, The Czech Republic

October 1–2, 2015

www.novakovydney.cz

More congresses and courses to be found in the ESTES events calendar at
www.estesonline.org

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