



## European Society for Trauma and Emergency Surgery (ESTES)

Association sans but lucratif (ASBL)

[www.estesonline.org](http://www.estesonline.org)

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## Message from the Advisory Council Chair

Dear colleagues,  
Dear ESTES members,

I am proud to address my greetings to you as Chair of the ESTES Advisory Council (EAC). As you remember, this new ESTES body was established last year in Vienna. Having been elected after a ballot among national representatives as Chair is a great honor for me, and at the same time I feel the responsibility for the initial moves of this newborn project, trying to serve ESTES in the right direction.

The main goals of the EAC are essentially the following: to increase the relationships between Sections and the Educational Committee (EDUC), stimulating each other to build up common projects, research, and activities; to be the comfort zone where any national representative can express his/her active participation in ESTES, giving advice for ESTES growth, suggesting ideas, taking the responsibility for leading or collaborating in working groups with specific tasks, submitting to ESTES the needs of their own countries and of the members of their National Society; to orient and support the strategic decisions of the Executive Board.

In other words, an area of democracy and entrepreneurship, for proactive people.

Gathering together so many people in an effective way was a challenge that the former Executive Board decided to accept and our General Assembly approved. Now, it is time to go ahead.

The first steps seem promising. The availability of the ESTES Forum web-based platform has allowed sections, EDUC, and working groups (e.g., Geriatric Emergency Surgery project, MUSEC team, the ECTES organizing committee) to speed up and simplify their work.

EAC members have met via the web three times from December 2016 to April 2017. These meetings allowed to better define priorities and prepare the Live EAC in Bucharest. The latter was finally an animated meeting, open to suggestions and advice. The proposal for a Foundation, aiming to reduce financial concerns, was widely discussed and the idea, was supported by a majority, with the advice that more time should be taken to reflect upon it. The working groups temporarily established during the live meeting have identified many issues that could potentially represent a strong improvement for ESTES. Young surgeons' engagement, improvement of communication (website, ESTES news), grand rounds, new ECTES format, ESTES and small countries, surveys, ESTES campaigns: these are only a sample of the points addressed. When this report is published, the annual EAC meeting will have been

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concluded on September 9, in Zurich, hosted by Dominik Heim, with the above mentioned points in the agenda.

For sure, one of the effects of the newborn EAC will be seen next year in Valencia: thanks to the suggestions, the format of the 19th ECTES will be different, more dynamic, interactive, attractive. Isidro Martinez and the Scientific Committee, with a contribution from Sections never seen before, are working hard and creatively.

So, don't miss ECTES 2018 and send your research abstracts—the deadline is approaching!

Having an appointment in ESTES can no longer be interpreted as a prestigious, deserved award, but as a serving role from which ESTES members and the trauma and acute care surgical communities can draw benefit in their daily practice.

I personally trust that an efficient, well-oiled EAC can contribute to unlock the Sections' potential, thus, involving increasing numbers of ESTES members, boosting activities and interest in trauma and acute care in Europe, and improving organizational responses and quality of care in this field.

Yours sincerely,

Mauro Zago  
ESTES Advisory Council Chair

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### Report of the 18th European Congress of Trauma and Emergency Surgery

May 7–9, Bucharest, Romania

Mircea Beuran and Bogdan Diaconescu

Together with fine music, drinks and snacks, the participants, new honorary members and congress grant winners of this year's congress were cordially welcomed at the Parliament Congress Center in Bucharest. As a meeting point for European surgeons, where could it be more appropriate than Romania which, located midway between the Atlantic coast and the Ural Mountains, lies in the middle of Europe?



Parliament Building

In Bucharest we also celebrated the 10th anniversary of the formation of ESTES. Since the original merger of EATES and ETS it has gradually become more successful. That merger created a powerful synergy that has been built on over the years to create one of the world's foremost surgical societies.

More than 1000 delegates from about 80 countries around the world came together to discuss the care of injured and acutely ill surgical patients. Under the motto "Give and take, Share your experience", a diversified scientific program presented a wide range of opportunities for the participants to obtain information for daily practice. We had a distinguished international faculty, more than 100 instructional lectures and 26 keynote sessions, 20 instructional course lectures and one consensus statement. More than 200 scientific papers and 459 posters were presented. The meeting covered a wide variety of topics such as Damage Control Principles, Acute Care Surgery, Peritonitis, Management of Colonic Obstruction, Vascular Injuries, Acute Management of Pancreatic Injury and Disease, Polytrauma, Trauma Systems, Collective Burn Injuries, Multiple Fractures, Pelvic Injury and many others. Instructional lecture courses, keynote sessions, case presentations and poster sessions presented the state of the art in emergency and trauma surgery. Also, the EBSQ trauma surgery examination as well as the emergency surgery examination was organized in association with the meeting. Furthermore, several pre-congress courses were organized, such as the European Mass Casualty Incident Course (ECMI), the Modular Ultra Sound Estes Course (MUSEC) and the Polytrauma Course.

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The Romanian Society for Trauma and Emergency Surgery organized a welcome reception with traditional Romanian dishes.



Welcome Reception



Scientific Sessions

During the sessions knowledge was shared and discussed. The networking events provided opportunities for renewing contacts and exchanging experiences between colleagues from all over the world. We are very grateful that so many experienced and young colleagues in Romania supported the organization of this powerful event by investing much time and effort.



Young team of students from the organizing committee

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Many participants stated that one of their personal highlights of this year's congress was the Official Congress Evening held at the Romanian Athenaeum. In this beautiful location, the delegates enjoyed not only a savory traditional meal with local wines and built networks for future patient care, but were also able to enjoy a unique combination of modern and classical music.



Romanian Atheneum—official congress evening.

The congress finished with the Closing Ceremony on Tuesday afternoon, where awards were given for the best posters and best oral paper presentations.

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Finally, it was time for the traditional handover of the Congress Medal from Congress President Mircea Beuran to Isidro Martinez, ESTES Congress President 2018, as well as a short look ahead to next year's congress, which will take place in Valencia. Furthermore, it was time for the traditional handover of the Society baton from Jonathan Tilsed to Marius Keel, incoming ESTES President.



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Dear colleagues,

After *ECTES 2017* in Bucharest, Romania, we are now looking forward to *ECTES 2018* in Valencia, Spain, which will take place from May 6–8, 2018.

Important dates to remember	
<b>Monday, August 28, 2017</b> Start abstract submission	<b>Friday, December 15, 2017</b> Notification of abstract acceptance
<b>Friday, October 20, 2017</b> Deadline for abstract submission	<b>Friday, February 16, 2018</b> Deadline for early bird registration fee, registration cancellation
<b>Monday, November 27, 2017</b> Start online registration	<b>Friday, April 20, 2018</b> End of regular fee
<b>Sunday, May 6 – Tuesday, May 8, 2018</b> 19 <sup>th</sup> European Congress of Trauma & Emergency Surgery	

**The abstract submission starts on Monday, August 28, 2017.**

All necessary information regarding topics and submission details can be found on the website: [www.estesonline.org](http://www.estesonline.org)

A **Preliminary Scientific Programme** (including keynote speakers and first session details) will be available online by September 2017.

Sincerely,

The ECTES 2018 Organising Team  
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### Minutes of the section meeting of the Disaster and Military Section on May 6, 2017 in Bucharest

The meeting was attended by the following members: Mike Bemelman from The Netherlands (section chairman); Johnathan Tilsed from Great Britain (ESTES president); Eric Voiglio from France (ESTES vice president); Roberto Faccincani from Italy; Francois Pons from France; Radko Komadina from Slovenia; Andres Cretnik from Slovenia; Simon Herman from Slovenia; Stefan Schultz-Droit from the Germany; Teun van Egmond from The Netherlands; Mamuka Jangavadze from Georgia; Michael Molmer from Denmark, Itamar Ashkenazi from Israel.

- Mike Bemelman was approved as chairman of the meeting.
- Additional points requested—Mike Bemelman wishes to report on the section's sessions in this conference.
- Nomination of a new chairman—Mike Bemelman had served as section chairman for the last 4 years. Roberto Faccincanni's nomination to serve as the new section chairman was approved by all present. Roberto presented his policy advocating the need for involvement of more people in the leadership of this section.
- Vice chairman—Mike Bemelman informed that Pedro Ramos has stepped down as vice chairman of the section due to his new responsibility as Minister of Health of the autonomous government in Madeira, Portugal.
- Section leadership: assuring continuity—a discussion followed concerning the issue on how to safeguard optimal function of the section when both chairman and vice chairman have ended their term of service. Two main options were discussed: continue the active involvement of the previous leadership by a temporary nomination of the previous chairman as vice chairman of the section; official status/involvement as "past section chairman" as is recognized and practiced by the ESTES Board. Following the discussion, the second option was chosen as the better choice of the two. A formal request to recognize the official position of the previous chairman will be communicated to the ESTES Advisory Council.
- Itamar Ashkenazi's nomination to serve as the new section vice chairman was approved by all present.
- One hundred eighty ESTES members representing many countries are signed up as members of the section.
- A website dedicated to the Disaster and Military Section was developed and is currently well maintained. Mike Bemelman helped develop this site with Denise Lembaecker assisted with a dedicated IT. The need to continue and maintain the site was discussed. It was decided that Mike Bemelman will continue to maintain the site. To facilitate continuity, Mike Molmer will join Mike Bemelman in this effort.
- The role of MRMI within the structure of the ESTES was discussed. MRMI was developed by ESTES members with the aim of this being an official ESTES course. However, this is not officially recognized as such today. The members of the section suggested that MRMI should be promoted as the leading educational course on major incident management within ESTES. The members of the section also suggested that MRMI should be recognized as an institutional member in ESTES similar to ATLS and ETC. Eric Voiglio suggested a formal request to be forwarded to the ESTES Advisory Council by the MRMID International Association. Roberto will present this suggestion to the MRMID Executive Board at latest in the next MRMID Business Meeting which will be held in Milan next November.
- In addition to the MRMI discussion, Mike Bemelman announced that he was approached by Pol Rommens on behalf of Ingo Marzi that Germany has developed their own disaster course. Pol Rommens has invited a delegate of the disaster section to join this course which will be held in May 2017 in order to evaluate if it is suitable as an ECTES precourse. The section appreciate the invitation and will try and comply even though the time frame to organize such a visit is very short. However, the section is also very surprised by this initiative since a good product, MRMI, already exists.

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No contact has been sought to discuss the involvement of MRMI in this new initiative. The proponents of the German course, being prominent board members of ESTES, are well aware of the MRMI as this was an ESTES initiative. It seems as if the MRMI concept is being ignored.

- A precourse ECMI was conducted in this 2017 Congress on mass casualty incident management. This was a modification of the full MRMI course based on the MacSim system. The program proved to be successful. Few signed up due to a variety of contributing problems: delays in receiving recognition of CME's for this course; delay in putting the precourse on the congress website. Twelve participants and 10 faculty from among the International MRMI Instructors participated. The section recommends this course to be done again next year in the 2018 Congress in Valencia. Mike Molmer will join Mike Bemelman in organizing this precourse.
- Roberto Faccincani described the final results of the THREATS project, which ended June 2016. Other initiatives for possible EU funding were presented: the BREATHE proposal, submitted in August 2016 and the ongoing SHIELD proposal. Some of the Section members have already been contacted to join and others will be joining soon. These proposals aim at the EU call on Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) promoting research on the protection of the Health Sector against possible threats, among these terrorist attacks.
- ECTES 2018 annual congress—Mike Bemelman asked members to suggest possible topics for the congress to be held next year in Valencia, if possible, by the end of this congress. Stefan Schultz-Droit suggested the topic of maritime disasters.
- Mike Bemelman reported on the involvement of the section in this year's annual congress in Bucharest. In preparation for this congress, the section submitted a proposal that included 6 sessions. No feedback was given until the program appeared in the announcements. In this preliminary program we learned that of the original proposal to have 6 sessions, only three remained. A request for clarification was submitted to the ESTES board; however, no response was given. Radko Komadina commented that he is involved in the skeletal section. This section was awarded 11 sessions. Although the number of sections awarded was considerable, the same miscommunication existed between the skeletal section and the board. The members of the section recommend that this issue should be addressed by the board in order to avoid a similar situation next year.

Minutes taken by Itamar Ashkenazi.

Roberto Faccincani  
Chairman

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### Report of ESTES Congress Grant Winner Anna Kusturova



I would like to share my unforgettable impressions about ECTES 2017.

During my residency of Orthopedics and Traumatology I worked at the Institute of Emergency Medicine, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova. Seeing a lot of patients every day with severe trauma I tried to help them and to find the best and quickest way to do this. I continue to work with a highly specialized team in a national project like a scientific researcher combining scientific and practical work. So my special interest is management of trauma patients: examination and first aid in the emergency room, treatment of different kinds of traumatological and orthopedic pathology using conservative and surgical methods, postoperative care and rehabilitation, collaboration with other specialists in the complex management of the polytrauma patients, especially with pelvic ring injuries, thoracic and spine trauma. I have participated in many national and international conferences, meetings of the National Society of Orthopedists–Traumatologists, Polytrauma Courses (Moscow), Salzburg Medical Seminars, AO Trauma Course, have been awarded gold medals and diplomas from the International Salons of Innovations. Besides this, I am attending a course “Thoracic injuries in polytrauma patients’, organized by the Institute of Emergency Medicine.

But this list is not complete without the European Congress of Trauma and Emergency Surgery! I applied for a Congress grant several times but the answer had always been negative. This year I sent all the necessary documents as usual without any hope. A few days remained until the congress and... I received the confirmation of being a congress grant winner! Nine hours to Bucharest by bus flew like nine minutes! Besides the rain and cold weather outside, there were hot discussions and the beautiful atmosphere in the Palace of Parliament. An outstanding program promised new insights and a good platform for sharing professional experience of various topics. It was a great honor to receive one of the congress grants, presented by the ESTES President Prof. Dr. Jonathan Tilsed. As a young trauma surgeon, I am honored that my hard work has been recognized by ESTES. I am very grateful to have been awarded this prestigious congress grant which allowed me to visit the congress and present my work in two posters about thoracic trauma and pelvic fractures in polytrauma patients.

The scientific program included numerous presentations from all over the world and it provided a valuable experience. My special interest was focused on polytrauma and skeletal trauma so I attended the Instructional Lecture Course (ICL) “Polytrauma—how to prioritize?” where the speakers discussed everything—from head to legs and what should be treated first according to modern algorithm of damage control orthopedics surgery. After this the Otmar Trentz Lecture was held by Prof. Christian Krettek. The lecturer was late but nobody left the lecture hall because all were looking forward

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to the interesting topic. Our expectations were met! Prof. Krettek lectured about posttraumatic defects after intraarticular fractures—how to prevent them and how to treat them with new preservation options.

Scientific sessions about complex limb injuries, pelvic, thoracic, cerebral and spinal trauma included all aspects of traumatology presented on a high, evidence-based level, with theoretical argumentation and personal clinical cases.

I was really amazed by new modern technologies and innovations, especially in skeletal trauma—using of C-nail for calcaneus fractures, Targon FN for femoral neck fracture, patella plate. Negative pressure for wound management was presented with new advantages and possibilities. As a surprise at the end of this ICL was 3D printing in skeletal trauma care—the future of trauma management.

Finally, I would like to thank ESTES for supporting me to visit the European Congress of Trauma and Emergency Surgery in Bucharest. This congress brings together professionals from many countries and provides a platform where they can share knowledge, spread ideas and advance in the field.

Thank you very much!

Sincerely yours,  
Anna Kusturova, MD

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### Announcements

#### Upcoming related congresses & courses

##### **MUSEC – Modular UltraSound ESTES Course**

Milton Keynes, United Kingdom

September 17, 2017

##### **Workshop on Visceral Trauma – Definitive Surgery for Trauma Care**

Graz, Austria

September 25–26, 2017

##### **53. Jahrestagung der ÖGU**

Salzburg, Austria

October 5–7, 2017

##### **MUSEC – Modular UltraSound ESTES Course**

Ourense, Spain

October 7, 2017

##### **VI International Congress of the Polish Emergency Medicine Society**

Lublin, Poland

October 18–21, 2017

##### **DKOU 2017**

Berlin, Germany

October 24–27, 2017

<http://2017.dkou.org/>

##### **Trauma 2017**

Moscow, Russia

November 3–4, 2017

<http://www.2017.trauma.pro/en>

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More congresses and courses to be found in the **ESTES events calendar** at

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