



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

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

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## Message from the Advisory Council Chair

Dear ESTES members,

This is my last editorial as Chair of the Advisory Council.

As you might know, I already communicated the intention to not run for a second term, so my Chairmanship will end in 2022. Actually, I have already started somehow the hand-over process: I asked two members of the Council to take over some of the Chair's responsibilities. Why two people? Because of course two is "meglio" (better) than one, to use a famous Italian slogan. And this is also valid for the Council (and I guess ESTES will agree with me very soon...).

This is the right time and place to explain my choice.

1) On October 1, 2021, the European-funded project NIGHTINGALE will start and will last 3 years. ESTES will have a major role in it and I will have too, on behalf of the Society, coordinating a working group formed by several members. The Disaster and Military Surgery Section will be the star, as the topic of the project is a "disaster" topic, but many other members will be called to participate. It is the first time ESTES has accepted a challenge like this; the Society has to confirm the trust of the European Commission to be the referral point for the topic of medical management of trauma victims during disasters; if we perform well, this will be a huge leap forward for ESTES in terms of visibility and credibility. And even more....

I want to fully concentrate on the project, and by remaining the Chair of the Advisory Council I would risk neglecting this point. And of course, the Council needs a lot of attention. It is because of the attention put into it during the past years that we can be very proud of the results achieved.

2) And here comes the second reason why I decided to quit: it would be very difficult to equal such a good performance. When my term started, I set an agenda and objectives, and I am proud to say many have been achieved. I am not attached to the position and I do not want to "sit on laurels". I am firmly convinced of the need for turn-over of the governing positions.

In November 2018 in Ljubljana, participating in my first Advisory Council meeting as Chair of the Disaster and Military Surgery Section, I asked for:

- More recognition of the Chairs of the Sections and the Educational Committee,
- Clearer rules and regulations inside the different bodies of the Society, and
- More transparent organization of the Society's annual congress (ECTES).

Convinced that the right place to raise these requests was the Advisory Council, I ran for the position of Chair and got it. Then I started working and because of the advice of the Council



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- A proposal for an enlargement of the Board to include the Sections and Committee Chairs is under evaluation.
- A revision of the bylaws is in process and I am sure it will be presented to the General Assembly during the next ECTES 2022 in Oslo.
- A standardized, transparent and cooperative way to organize ECTES remains an open issue, but I am confident it will be resolved soon, taking advantage of the work from Oslo's organizing committee, where different stakeholders have been involved since the beginning in a very constructive way.

I would also like to express my gratitude...

*To my friend Itamar Ashkenazi:*

We shared years of work together inside MRMI&D, Disaster and Military Surgery Section and Advisory Council and more than this, of true friendship. Ita, I am very thankful because you have been and are my "half-moon" and you know why.

*To the members of the Advisory Council:*

It has been exciting to work with you all. I think the Council and the Society is much better today than it was when we started working together. I wish you new challenges to face and the strength to win them.

*To ESTES Executive Board members:*

Dear friends, we demonstrated how a governing body of a huge Scientific Society, representing many souls and many interests (and not always aligned), can and shall work to achieve results. We have been able to compose instead of fragmenting and I am very proud to have been part of this extraordinary and fruitful experience.

*To Carlos Mesquita:*

We shared a lot of common ideas and objectives and I recognize you have been one of the most inspiring people of my action inside the Executive Board; at one point, you decided you could not keep working inside it and moved outside, while I stayed in; the success achieved prove that I was somehow right, but also that... the merit goes in part to you. And by the way, we are still planning a nice swim together!

*Last but not least to my mentor Sten Lennquist:*

In Split in 2009 you opened the door to the world of MRMI, Disaster Medicine and ESTES for me. Because of your inspiring teaching I am today master in Disaster Medicine; part of the most important network in Europe on the education on medical management of major incidents and disasters (MRMI&D International Association); active member of the most important scientific society in Europe in the field of trauma and emergency surgery (ESTES); principal investigator for ESTES in a project where the European Commission recognizes the Society and in particular the Disaster and Military Surgery Section as a unique platform in Europe for the different stakeholders regarding the treatment of victims of mass casualty incidents and disasters. It is a privilege to have sailed, to sail and plan to sail this world with you.

And as His Holiness the Dalai Lama says: "Never give up".

Roberto Faccincani

ESTES Advisory Council Chair 2019–2022

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### Announcements

#### Upcoming related congresses & courses

##### **57. ÖGU & 2. ÖGOU T Jahrestagung**

October 7–9, 2021

Virtual Meeting

##### **Pisa Workshop of Acute Care Surgery and Trauma**

Severe thoracic trauma and flail chest: rib planting vs. conservative management

October 29, 2021

Virtual Meeting

##### **Pisa Workshop of Acute Care Surgery and Trauma**

Noncomplicated acute diverticulitis: antibiotic treatment vs. nonantibiotic treatment

November 26, 2021

Virtual Meeting

##### **Pisa Workshop of Acute Care Surgery and Trauma**

Severe acute cholecystitis in high-risk patients:

cholecystectomy vs. gallbladder drainage

December 17, 2021

Virtual Meeting

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

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