

Issue 1, June 2023

European Plastic Surgery

 **ESPRAS**
European Society of Plastic,
Reconstructive & Aesthetic Surgery



Newsletter of The European Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery

Stronger Together in Europe!

- *New ESPRAS Logo and refurbished traditional ESPRAS Logo*
- *New Membership Certificate*



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New ESPRAS Newsletter

Riccardo Giunta, Germany



Dear members of ESPRAS and all European National Societies for Plastic Surgery,

On the occasion of the 4th ESPRAS European Leadership Forum (ELF) in Munich, the new Executive Committee (ExCo) of ESPRAS decided to publish a newsletter at regular intervals. You now have the first copy in front of you, which will only be published digitally in pdf format.

The aim of ESPRAS is to collect all types of current information on Plastic Surgery from all national and European societies and to disseminate this information to the individual national specialist societies. On the one hand, decision-making processes will be coordinated at European level and, on the other hand, duplication resulting from multiple processing by different societies will be reduced.

In this first issue you will find reports on the ESPRAS congress in Porto, Portugal and on our ELF meeting in Munich, Germany. The activities on our new social media channels on twitter and Instagram as well as the last press release from the beginning of May and the press response are briefly summarized. In addition, articles on the efforts of ESPRAS for doctors in training and young plastic surgeons are also summarized.

The front page shows the new ESPRAS logo as well as a revised, vectorized form of the

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old logo. Both are to be used together for a transitional period.

We intend to provide an entertaining overview of the current activities of plastic surgery in Europe which we hope will be of interest to you. This format has yet to become established and we will therefore be most grateful for your feedback and suggestions for improvement as well as any personal contributions. Any contributions for the next newsletter from your national and European societies will be much appreciated. Please send them to: newsletter@espras.org.

If you are interested in participating in the different areas of ESPRAS, please contact me directly.

In line with the motto of the 2023/2024 term "Stronger together in Europe!", let us work together to significantly strengthen the practice of Plastic Surgery in Europe.

My very best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Riccardo Giunta". The signature is stylized and fluid, with a large loop at the end of the last name.

Riccardo Giunta
ESPRAS President 2023/2024

“Stronger together in Europe!” - Statement about the ESPRAS 4th European Leadership Forum (ELF)

Dirk Schaefer, Switzerland

Upon invitation by the ESPRAS-President Professor Riccardo Giunta the 4th European Leadership Forum was held in Munich, Germany from March 24th to 25th 2023. The concept of ELF-Meetings was developed in 2020 by the ESPRAS-ExCo to provide a platform for European leaders in Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic surgery to discuss current issues and future strategies to strengthen and protect our specialist society. Due to the pandemic the first three ELF-Meetings for held virtually, but with overcoming the restrictions the first “live and in-person ELF-Meeting” was organized in the center of Europe to allow personal attendance and acquaintance of expert colleagues.



The presidents of national societies and European organizations met at the academic clinical center of the Ludwigs-Maximillan University of Munich to analyze the current status discuss emerging demands within plastic surgery among Europe.



Ruth Waters, past president of BAPRAS

In the presence of national and European delegates and in a collaboration with EBOPRAS essential questions regarding the current demands and challenges as well as cooperation within the different European expert associations were discussed. An important theme of the meeting was that ESPRAS, representing all plastic surgeons who are members of national societies within Europe and supporting member countries of ESPRAS provides a platform for the further development and promotion of our speciality as well as together addressing regulatory, protective and strategic questions regarding relationships with colleagues in other medical specialties and the European authorities. ESPRAS ExCo will be inviting representation from all other valuable European plastic surgery associations and societies as expert delegates. The goal is to coordinate and harmonize the different European expert

associations by establishing effective inter-organizational communication and action. This strategy is aimed to both strengthen the individual organizations and also unify the national societies to achieve proper recognition for plastic surgery.

The result is summarized by the ESPRAS mission statement: “Stronger together in Europe!”.



Participants of the Anatomical Museum tour with Prof. Putz

In this spirit the pursuit of a social media campaign was agreed and financed from ESPRAS resources. The aim of this initiative is to identify and effectively communicate all the roles and benefits of plastic surgery and ESPRAS to the public.



Conjoined dinner with EBOPRAS at Spatenhaus



Local host, ESPRAS President Riccardo Giunta

The meeting of experts and leaders in the field of plastic surgery was also appreciated and celebrated during the social activities with an exclusive guided tour in the Museum of Anatomy as fundamental science of our specialty as well as get-togethers in the famous and historic Hofbräuhaus and Spatenhaus in the center of Munich with all enjoying the great Bavarian hospitality. Our new motto “Stronger together in Europe!” was cheered several times and will be communicated through our national societies. It will be also be prominent in the individual membership certificates provided by ESPRAS through the national societies offices.

Together Everyone Achieves More!



ASPS past President Lynn Jeffers joining virtually

Stronger together thanks to ESPRAS European Education Exchange Network (EEEN)

Giovanni di Benedetto, Italy

Study and work experiences abroad are of fundamental importance in the training period of a resident/student.

They provide an excellent opportunity to practise and develop language skills, they increase personal motivation, allow to improve knowledge and competence and create a valid tool for updating, improvement and individual growth. However, this path is often made complex due to bureaucracy or the difficulty of contacting the institutions of interest.

The concept of ESPRAS “European Education Exchange Network”, (EEEN), was born from the need to simplify the training experience in the field of Plastic Surgery between different European countries.

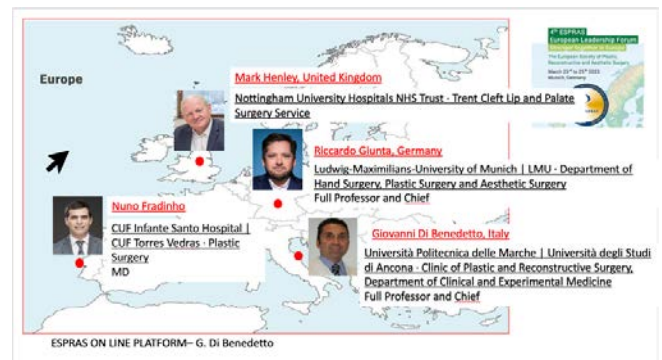


ESPRAS EUROPEAN EDUCATION EXCHANGE NETWORK

Giovanni Di Benedetto
Ancona, Italy

consists of an online platform whose aim is to create a network of various European plastic surgery facilities to speed up and facilitate students’ and residents’ visit and exchanges throughout Europe by making applications and connections faster.

All of the institutions wishing to take part to this project will be included in the network and will be visible on the ESPRAS web site (www.espras.org).



In this way, applicants would be able to select and choose between different fields of interest such as General Plastic Surgery, Hand Surgery, Breast Surgery, Microsurgery, Head and Neck Surgery, Burns, etc. This would permit arrangements to be made *in real time* since all the institutions involved are willing to accept guests from other countries.

It is targeted at Plastic Surgery Residents and 5th-6th year Medical Students and

Europe

Anna Elander
Sahlgrenska University Hospital

Janis Gilis
President of the Latvian Association of Plastic Surgeons. M.D., Ph.D

Matthias Rab
Director Department of Plastic, Aesthetic and Reconstructive Surgery, Klagenfurt, Austria

Dirk J. Schaefer
Full Professor and Chief of the Division of Plastic, Reconstructive, Aesthetic and Hand Surgery at the University Hospital Basel

Davor Mijatovic
University Hospital Centre Zagreb | KBCZ · Department of Surgery MD, PhD, Professor of Surgery

Cenk Demirdover
Dokuz Eylul University | DEÜ · Department of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Professor

ESPRAS ON LINE PLATFORM- G. Di Benedetto

4th ESPRAS European Leadership Forum
Stronger together in Europe
The European Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery
March 23rd to 25th 2023
Munich, Germany

Length of stay could range from very short stays (a couple of days) to several weeks (for example 3-4 weeks), depending on student's/resident's interest and the facilities' resources and availability. Facilities could include universities, hospitals, private practices/clinics, research institutes, labs; each structure could declare if any kind of accommodation, special fares or other services for the guests are offered.

This platform could greatly strengthen the network of Plastic Surgery in Europe and could help in some way to counteract the trend of other specialities to overrun the different fields of our specialization.

Achieving a common purpose between the different societies that comprise Plastic Surgery could, in this sense, make the training of our residents more specific and seriously job oriented.

Young European Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons

- Ideas and Options to further improve exchange between Plastic Surgery residents on a European level

Constance Kuhlmann, Germany

In most European countries specialty training in Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery (PRAS) requires many years of guided practice, clinical rotations, the fulfillment of an operation catalogue and a final exam for board certification ensuing an overall high standard of education on the European continent (1). Naturally, European plastic surgery residents face similar challenges in their education, despite working in different national organizations. The aim to further harmonize European standards in PRAS-Training has resulted in various European initiatives such as the EBOPRAS exam, which have been introduced during the last decades.

Furthermore, ESPRAS strongly encourages networking and exchange of European PRAS-Trainees beyond national borders. During the European Leadership Forum (ELF) Meetings between 2020 and 2023 an overwhelming majority of respondents supported the implementation of European educational programs making this a high-priority initiative (2). Consequently, the ESPRAS fellowship program was born, to provide a European

fellow with the opportunity “to study the art, science, and skills of plastic surgery” in another country that is a member of ESPRAS with a stipend. Additionally, representatives of the resident-generation were invited to the ELF-Meetings to contribute the opinions of PRAS-trainees. During the ELF Meeting in 2020 the young generation of plastic surgeons was represented by PLASTA (Plastic Surgery Trainee Association) UK and in 2023 by residents of the current ESPRAS president Prof. Riccardo Giunta (University Hospital of Munich) who hosted the event. During the quadrennial ESPRAS-congress in 2022 in Gaia, Portugal Dr. Marta Azevedo (from the department of Prof. Horacio Costa – Gaia Hospital Center) implemented the first “Trainees-session” of the congress, inviting resident delegates from different European countries who discussed similarities and differences of the respective national educational systems and possibilities on how to further advance the field of PRAS and build strong ties for the future.

During these meetings different opportunities on how to increase

networking and knowledge exchange of residents on a European level have been up to discussion. On this topic, the overall agreement was to further provide the “Trainees-Session” during official congress meetings, which yields the unique occasion for personal exchange between selected European PRAS-residents. Moreover, successful educational programs should receive further reinforcement in the future. In this regard, social media could be a useful tool to advertise the educational work of ESPRAS (e.g. the fellowship program) and to directly target the young PRAS-generation.

Finally, there is an opportunity in future of founding a Young European Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery - Society (with the proposed acronym YEPRAS) as part of the ESPRAS, to create a platform for residents on a European level, which was discussed during this year’s ELF-meeting. In this context, the Young European Hand Surgeons (YEHS) who act as

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Stronger together in Europe! Term 2022/2023

ESPRAS Executive Committee (ExCo) 2023/2024

Riccardo Giunta, President
Mark Henley, Vice President
Anna Elander, Secretary General
Dirk Schaefer, Treasurer

ESPRAS Executive Committee

Cenk Demirdöver, Turkey
Giovanni di Benedetto, Italy
Anna Elander, Sweden
Nuno Fradhino, Portugal
Janis Gillis, Latvia
Riccardo Giunta, Germany
Mark Henley, U.K.
Davor Mijatovic, Croatia
Matthias Rab, Austria
Dirk Schaefer, Switzerland

Quality Indicators in Breast Reconstruction

Anna Elander, Sweden

The Plastic Surgery community need to describe European quality indicators for breast reconstructions, a subspecialty in plastic surgery, which we have developed since the 1970th.



Image under creative common license

A previously published ESPRAS study on breast reconstruction revealed that there

is lack of consistency in international practice patterns across European countries and a need for evidence-based guidelines¹. The only existing European standards include guidelines for both quality indicators of breast cancer care developed by The European Society of Breast Cancer Specialists (EUSOMA)². EUSOMA do not state how the working groups were established. Regarding surgical specialties, four general surgeons participated in one of the groups³ and two general surgeons and a gynaecologist in the other⁴. No plastic surgeons, the only speciality with knowledge about and experience of all types of breast reconstructions, participated. The European Societies in Plastic Surgery, or any other plastic surgical society, did not participate actively in the development and

¹ Giunta RE, Hansson E, Andresen C, Athanasopoulos E, Benedetto GD, Celebic AB, Caulfield R, Costa H, Demirdöver C, Georgescu A, Hemelryck TV, Henley M, Kappos EA, Karabeg R, Karhunen-Enckell U, Korvald C, Mortillet S, Murray DJ, Palenčár D, Piatkowski A, Pompeo FSD, Psaras G, Rakhorst H, Rogelj K, Rosenkrantz Hölmich L, Schaefer DJ, Spindel S, Stepic N, Vandervoort M, Vasar O, Waters R, Zic R, Moellhoff N, Elander A. ESPRAS Survey on Breast Reconstruction in Europe. *Handchir Mikrochir Plast Chir.* 2021 Aug;53(4):340-348. English. doi: 10.1055/a-1424-1428. Epub 2021 Mar 30. PMID: 33784792.

² <https://www.eusoma.org/>

³ Biganzoli L, Marotti L, Hart CD, Cataliotti L, Cutuli B, Kuhn T, Mansel RE, Ponti A, Poortmans P, Regitnig P, van der Hage JA, Wengstrom Y, *Issue 1, June 2023*

Rosselli Del Turco M. Quality indicators in breast cancer care: An update from the EUSOMA working group. *Eur J Cancer* 2017;**86**: 59-81.

⁴Biganzoli L, Cardoso F, Beishon M, Cameron D, Cataliotti L, Coles CE, Delgado Bolton RC, Trill MD, Erdem S, Fjell M, Geiss R, Goossens M, Kuhl C, Marotti L, Naredi P, Oberst S, Palussiere J, Ponti A, Rosselli Del Turco M, Rubio IT, Sapino A, Senkus-Konefka E, Skelin M, Sousa B, Saarto T, Costa A, Poortmans P. The requirements of a specialist breast centre. *Breast* 2020;**51**: 65-8

⁵Boulkedid R, Abdoul H, Loustau M, Sibony O, Alberti C. Using and reporting the Delphi method for selecting healthcare quality indicators: a systematic review. *PLoS One.* 2011;6(6):e20476. Epub 2011/06/23.

therefore the outcome regarding standards and quality indicators does not mirror the plastic surgery perspective. In the area of reconstructive surgery, the group has decided that the proportion of patients receiving immediate reconstruction at the same time as mastectomy is a quality indicator and that it should be at least 40 per cent. There is no evidence presented for the quality indicator and how the level of minimum target was established. Indeed, breast reconstruction is a procedure performed to enhance the patient's quality of life and 'cosmetic satisfaction'. However, the question of when and even if it should be performed and with which technique, in individual cases, is a complex issue and a simple frequency of immediate reconstruction is therefore not an adequate quality indicator

In 2020, the European Commission published the breast cancer burden in EU-27 countries with an estimated incidence of 355,457 new cases and 91,826 deaths. The lifetime risk of women to develop breast cancer increased up to 1 in 7, thus it is the most commonly diagnosed cancer in females. While breast cancer is curable in 70–80% of patients with early-stage, non-metastatic, disease, locoregional and systemic therapy approaches, including surgery, radio- and chemotherapy often leave women physically and psychologically impaired. Thus, breast reconstruction plays a central role in holistic breast cancer therapy, increasing patients' self-esteem and quality of life by restoring the femininity that female breast cancer patients often describe as lost during treatment. While breast reconstruction revolutionized breast cancer therapy and has become an invaluable part of recovery, the field of breast reconstruction is confronted with several controversially debated topics, requiring harmonization on an

international level, with clear evidence-based guidelines urgently needed.

The ExCo of ESPRAS has now decided that quality indicators in breast reconstruction issue would be a suitable study for the ESPRAS community.

How the quality indicators are developed is a key factor to whether they will truly increase quality. Ideally they are based on clinical studies, but such evidence is rarely sufficient. Therefore the experience of experts often needs to be incorporated, How the quality indicators are developed is a key factor to whether they will truly increase quality. Ideally quality indicators are based on clinical studies, but such evidence is rarely sufficient. Therefore the experience of experts needs to be incorporated, using a transparent methodological process and composition of experts. An established scientific method to develop quality indicators is the Delphi technique⁵.

The study design was approved at the last ELF meeting in Munich, March 2023 and the meeting decided to initiate the study and a scientific steering committee was appointed. The first virtual meeting will be at July 4th to finalize the study protocol and administrative details. Delphi questionnaires will be sent electronically to participants. By use of a survey form (Google docs) sent to national experts in breast reconstruction according to the Delphi procedure the quality indicators will be generated in several stages.

To succeed we need participation from both national experts in breast reconstructions and patient organizations from all European countries. We also need some young plastic surgeons willing to take on the data treatment and of course participate as an author of the upcoming papers. Eventual candidates may send a

mail to either Emma Hansson (emma.hansson.2@gu.se) or Anna Elander (anna.elander@vgregion.se). The steering committee will then take the decision.

We hope you will all participate in this project to improve quality of breast reconstruction!

Requests for participants will be sent through official channels, that is to national delegates, national societies and patient organizations.

Requests for participants will be sent through official channels, that is to national delegates, national societies and patient organizations.

ESPRAS Membership Certificate

New ESPRAS Membership Certificates

Cenk Demirdöver, Turkey

The ESPRAS Executive Committee has prepared a new ESPRAS membership certificate for all individual members in Europe which will soon be available. Prerequisite for obtaining a membership certificate is that your national society is an active member society of ESPRAS.

1. The national member society provides a list of its full active members to ESPRAS or evidence of an individual membership
2. EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) has to be accepted by the individual member.
3. A pdf is generated with for all members of a national society and sent to the national society or alternatively an individual pdf is created when 1 and 2 is fulfilled.



The following procedure is currently suggested for obtaining membership certificates:

Individual Alternatives can be discussed with the national societies. Please contact the ESPRAS office at espras@meister-concept.ch

European Plastic Surgery on Instagram and Twitter - New ESPRAS Social Media Channels

Riccardo Giunta, Germany

Since April 2023, ESPRAS has been present on Twitter and Instagram under @ESPRAS-Europe to share information about plastic surgery in Europe with the professional audience and the public. At the 4th European Leadership Forum in Munich in March 2023, it was decided by the General Assembly to operate a social media channel for a test period and subsequently evaluate whether this is a successful and valuable concept.

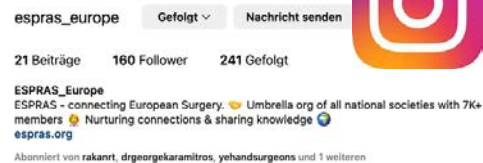


	May	April
Tweets	32	68
Impressions	9,735	8,582
Profile Visits	470	920
Mentions	13	26
New Followers	8	53

The background to this is that a social media strategy requires the support of an agency and this is too costly for most national societies. A joint effort financed by the membership fees of the national societies makes this possible on a European level and can be shared by the national societies. The British company Wavelength, led by Tingy Simoes, with whom the British society BAPRAS has already had positive experience, was chosen as a partner.

The aim of the ESPRAS social media strategy is therefore to bring factual information on the subject of plastic

surgery in Europe to the public and, above all, to raise awareness of the highest possible quality standard of the specialist plastic surgeon among the population. In addition, national and ESPRAS-linked European societies can, for example, promote national congresses or present their national society.



Suggestions for content can be sent by email to socialmedia@espras.org or, in the case of larger files such as videos, uploaded to the following Dropbox <https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/q4bnz3oq04bmbcqb18pfq/h?dl=0&rlkey=ybrod5f195s6799e1z4yku1l>.

Be part of our ESPRAS European Social Media Team!

A virtual exchange with the ESPRAS ExCo, with Tingy Simoes from the UK agency and your national representatives working on the topic is planned for July 13th 2023, 15:00 to 16:00 CEST. A Friday afternoon virtual meeting will be scheduled with a doodle for all interested. An informal registration at socialmedia@espras.org to be updated is sufficient.

ESPRAS virtual
European Social Media Kick-off
Thursday, July 13th,
14:00 to 16:00 CEST



Join Zoom Meeting

<https://lmu-munich.zoom.us/j/64628627933?pwd=Z29WT3VCMzRRQkg2U3E2MEFDNzhhUT09>

Meeting ID: 646 2862 7933
Passcode: 598164

The European Society for Plastic, Reconstructive ESPRAS invites leaders of national and European societies and their social media officers to an inaugural virtual Meeting to identify aims, opportunities for collaboration and to develop a European social media strategy for Plastic Surgery.

ESPRAS' intention is to gather educational and other relevant information from European societies to benefit both patients and surgeons and to share them across our community as a service for all engaged national societies.

Agenda:

- Presentation of ESPRAS current social media activity since April 2023
- Short presentations of existing activities in national and European Societies
- Identifying European criteria for appropriate content
- Discussion of possible formats (pictures, videos, podcasts, testimonials, patient stories etc.)
- Building a European Network to promote patient awareness about the quality of a certified Plastic Surgeon

Please register at the ESPRAS office in Switzerland: office@espras.org

Looking forward to meeting you digitally on 13th July

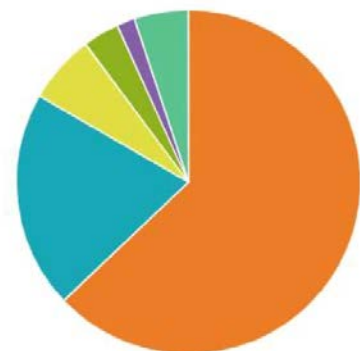
ESPRAS Press Release: Patient Protection and the Value of the Certified Plastic Surgeon

Riccardo Giunta, Germany and Tingy Simoes, UK

On May 9th 2023 ESPRAS published its second press release (<https://www.prnewswire.co.uk/news-releases/beauty-surgeons-putting-patients-in-jeopardy-the-european-society-of-plastic-reconstructive-and-aesthetic-surgery-espras-calls-for-specialist-training-standard-301817235.html>). The response to our last press release in April 2021 on breast reconstruction in Europe³ was overwhelming. Topic this time was patient protection in Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery in Europe. It was claimed that patients better know the training qualification of their plastic surgeon. Titles like “Aesthetic Surgeon” or “Beauty Surgeon” are largely unprotected and not properly trained persons may use them.

The press release was based on our two publications on the quality and relevance of the plastic surgery specialist¹ and the ESPRAS position paper on patient safety in Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery². It was published in the three languages English, French and German. National societies can translate the texts into their national language after consultation with the agency and use them in their country for press releases and public relations.

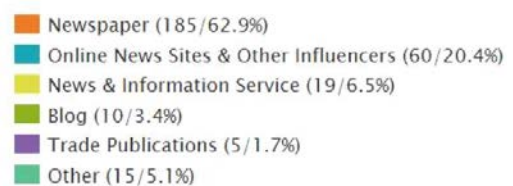
Total Pickup by Source Type



TOTAL POTENTIAL AUDIENCE 91M

RELEASE VIEWS & HITS 9.6K

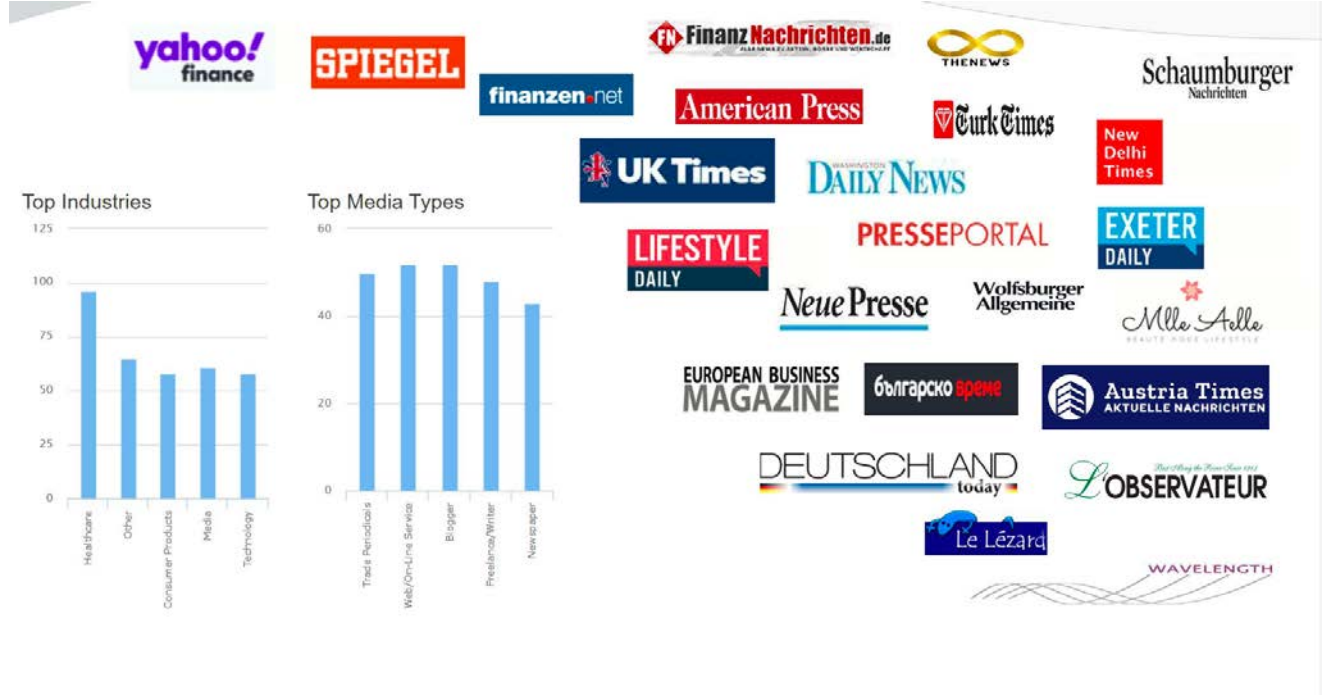
Release Views	8.4K
Media Views	206
Public Views	8.2K
Partner Sites	293
PR Newswire Properties	7.9K
Release Web Crawler Hits	1.2K



Over 300 (308) outlets internationally ran the press release with over 10,000 views.

Outlets from across UK, Europe (Germany, Austria, Switzerland, France and other European countries) ran the article. Again a big success in improving the public

awareness in the public for the highest possible qualification of a trained Plastic Surgeon.



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ESPRAS Meeting in Porto/Gaia, Portugal in October 2022

Mark Henley, U.K.

The 14th ESPRAS Congress of Plastic Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery was held in Porto Gaia, Portugal, between the 5th and 7th of October 2022, and provided a unique opportunity for the further development of the European Leadership Forum – the constructive collaboration between all of the national societies and specialist associations in Europe and across the world

This congress was special!

The global pandemic had a profound effect on all aspects of life as well as surgical practice with reduced clinical activity and forced adaptation to telemedicine for patient consultation, student and trainee education and



Gaia host and Congress President Horacio Costa

continued medical education. Medical meetings in Europe during this period were either postponed, held online or used hybrid solutions when the situation permitted.



ESPRAS President 2018-2022 Rado Zic, Croatia

Porto provided us with a terrific opportunity to renew relationships by meeting again in person, enjoying high quality presentations and networking. This was taken up by a significant proportion of the the global authorities in their fields. The ESPRAS vision of bringing the entire European community of plastic reconstructive and aesthetic surgeons together, along with friends and colleagues beyond, joined in harmony and



ESPRAS Executive Committee (ExCo) 2018-2022

scientific knowledge has been given a great start.

The level of participation by international specialist societies and National associations was unprecedented and it is a tribute to all the hard work undertaken by Horacio Costa and his team who provided a venue and programme which enabled all participants to meet old friends, mend broken ties, and to form new friendships. The beautiful historic city of Porto/Gaia, with its historical buildings, extraordinary food and wine were an additional inspiration to us all which was complemented by the river cruise with its excellent cuisine and serenades.

The seeds have been sewn for a brighter future of our speciality in Europe and around the world!

In addition to National Societies, the following International Associations and Publications participated:

- EURAPS - *European Association of Plastic Surgeons*
- EBOPRAS – *European Board of Plastic Reconstructive Aesthetic Surgery*
- EBHS - *European Board of Hand Surgery*
- EASAPS - *European Association of Societies of Aesthetic Plastic Surgery*
- EFSM - *European Federation of Societies for Microsurgery*
- EBA - *European Burns Association*
- EBJ – *European Burn Journal*
- FESSH - *Federation of European Societies for the Surgery of the Hand*
- EWMA - *European Wound Management Association*
- WSRM - *World Society for Reconstructive Microsurgery*
- ISAPS - *International Society of Aesthetic Plastic Surgery*
- ICOPLAST - *International Confederation of Plastic Surgery Societies*
- EJPS - *European Journal of Plastic Surgery*
- JPRAS - *Journal of Plastic, Reconstructive & Aesthetic Surgery*
- JPSHS - *Journal of Plastic Surgery and Hand Surgery (Scandinavian)*

EBOPRAS - The European Board of Plastic Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery

Cenk Demirdöver, Turkey, ESPRAS ExCo and EBOPRAS President

EBOPRAS, which is the working group of the UEMS (Union Européenne des Médecins Spécialistes - The European Union of Medical Specialists) Section of Plastic Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery (PRAS).

EBOPRAS is a foundation under Dutch Law and financially completely independent from the UEMS section of PRAS. The delegates for EBOPRAS are normally the same as those for the UEMS Section although the rules do permit them to be different. The UEMS section of PRAS receives funding from the national plastic surgical associations. On the other hand, the income of EBOPRAS consists of the registration fees of the applicants for the exams.

Organization

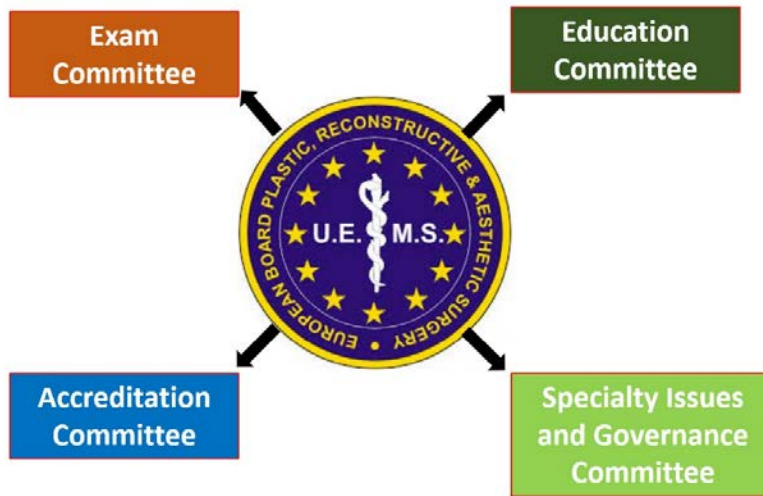
The delegates of the national associations of medical specialists in the European Union and in its associated countries represented in the UEMS constitutes the general assembly of the UEMS PRAS Section and the EBOPRAS. The General Assembly meets twice a year, in spring and autumn, normally after the oral examination.

The Executive Committee of the EBOPRAS consists of 10 members each possesses different duties. The Executive Committee for 2023-2025 period is listed below:

- Cenk Demirdover, President
- Rado Zic, Vice President
- Teresa Nunez, Secretary General
- Paul Werker, Treasurer
- Tim Goodacre, Chairman Education Committee
- Aurelio Portincasa, Chairman Accreditation Committee
- Joe Briffa, Chairman Exam Committee
- Ankur Pandya, Chairman Specialty Issues and Governance Committee
- Riccardo Giunta, Co-Opted Member (President of ESPRAS)

The EBOPRAS has 4 subcommittees:

Committees



Exam Committee: The exam committee organizes EBOPRAS exams. Each Plastic Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery trainee who has completed his/her fourth year in training or PRAS specialist may apply for the exam.

The EBOPRAS exam consists of 2 parts (Part 1: MCQ; Part 2: oral). Each exam is organized twice each year. The MCQ exams are computer based and held at a number of venues all over Europe. The oral exams are held live. Each candidate is evaluated in two tables where two examiners exist in each. Detailed information about the exams and dates can be found in the following link:

<https://ebopras.eu/examination/how-to-apply>

Education Committee: The education committee is responsible for the ETR's (the European Training Requirements), syllabus, and interaction with the UEMS about regulations in Section of PRAS.

Accreditation Committee: The accreditation committee organizes

accreditation visits to the PRAS units who apply for accreditation. During the visit, accreditation team interviews with trainees and academic staff, the Dean, the director of the hospital. The team also visits the library, research labs, wards, outpatient clinics. If the unit fulfills specific criteria a certificate is given for a 5-year period qualifying the unit to the European level in PRAS training.

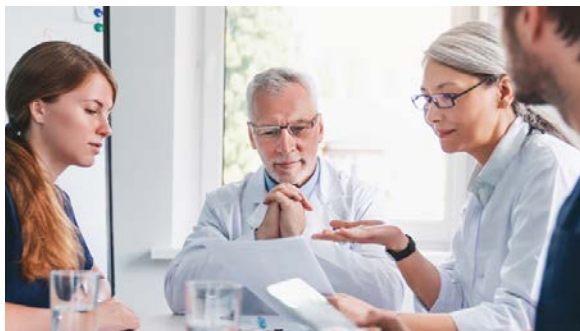
Specialty Issues and Governance Committee: The Specialty Issues and Governance Committee is responsible for protecting the specialty. It deals with the fake titles and collaborate with other specialties.

The main objective of the EBOPRAS is to provide a high-level of training and qualification for board-certification within the field of plastic, reconstructive and aesthetic surgery all over Europe. The standardized continuing education ensures that board certified plastic surgeons can safely and effectively perform state of the art procedures in all subspecialties of PRAS.

ESPRAS Extended ExCo Committee Applications open – Add your voice!

ESPRAS Executive Committee (ExCo), Switzerland

The European Society for Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery ESPRAS invites you to share your skills and expertise and help make a difference by applying to contribute as an ESPRAS committee member.



Committee members have the opportunity to collaborate and network with colleagues to impact the future of European Plastic Surgery by influencing health policy, patient safety, research, education, leadership and professional development.

Join one of the ESPRAS extended Executive Committees across eight areas of interest:

- Academic Affairs and registries
- Breast Reconstruction and Implants
- Education
- Foundation Reconstruction in war victims
- Membership
- Plastic Surgery in Private Practice
- Regulations, Statutes and Legal Affairs
- Social Media, Public Relations and website

Feel free to contact the office in Switzerland and the members of the Executive Committee with additional questions (office@espras.org).

Don't miss out!

Update ESPRAS Member Societies

ESPRAS Executive Committee (ExCo), Switzerland

			<h2>Member Societies of ESPRAS</h2>				
  <p>Deutsche Gesellschaft für Plastische, Rekonstruktive und Ästhetische Chirurgie (DGPRAC) www.dgpraec.de</p>	  <p>British Association of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (BAPRAS) www.bapras.org.uk</p>	  <p>Società Italiana di Chirurgia Plastica Ricostruttiva-Regenerativa ed esthetica (SICPRE) www.sicpre.it</p>	  <p>Société Française de la Chirurgie Plastique, Ricostrutive e esthétique (Soficpre) www.soficpre.fr</p>	  <p>Turkish Society of Plastic-Reconstructive and aesthetic surgery www.tpod.org.tr</p>	  <p>Sociedad Española de cirugía Plástica Reparadora y estética (SECPRE) www.secpre.org</p>	  <p>ČSPCH, Czech Republic https://chirurgie-plasticka.cz/cs/</p>	  <p>Plastik Carrahiyya İctimai Birliyi, PCIB, Azerbaijan http://www.pcib.az</p>
  <p>Finnish Society of Plastic Surgeons http://www.chirurgiplasticifenniae.fi/</p>	  <p>Croatian Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery (CSPRAS)</p>	  <p>Eesti Plastika- ja Rekonstruktiivkirurgia Selts, EPRS, Estonia http://www.plastikakirurgia.ee</p>	  <p>Bulgarian Association of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons, BULAPRAS, Bulgaria</p>	  <p>Österreichische Gesellschaft für Plastische, Ästhetische und Rekonstruktive Chirurgie www.plastischechirurgie.org</p>	  <p>Association of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery in Bosnia and Herzegovina www.uprehib.com</p>	  <p>GeoPRAS, Georgia</p>	  <p>Cyprus society of plastic reconstructive & aesthetic surgery, CYSRAS, Cyprus https://www.cyspras.org/en/the-society/</p>
  <p>Swedish Association of Plastic Surgeons www.spk.se</p>	  <p>Hungarian Society for Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery www.plasztika.org.hu</p>	  <p>LPKA, Latvia</p>	  <p>Macedonian Association of Plastic Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons, MAPRAS, Republic of North Macedonia</p>	  <p>Swiss Society of Plastic Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery www.plastic-surgery.ch</p>	  <p>Belarusian Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery, Belarus www.plastic-surgery.by</p>	  <p>LPRSS, Lithuania</p>	  <p>Moldavian Association of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery MAPRAS, Moldavia</p>
  <p>Hellenic Society for Plastic Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery (HESPRAS) www.hespras.gr</p>	  <p>Maltese Association of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons</p>	  <p>Polish Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery (PSPRAS), Poland www.ptchorie.pl</p>	  <p>Srpsko udruzenje za plasticku rekonstrukivnu i estetsku hiruriju, SRBRAS, Serbia</p>	  <p>Romanian Association of Plastic Surgeons www.chirurgiiplasticieni.ro</p>	  <p>Dansk Selskab for Plastik- og Rekonstruktionskirurgi, DSPR http://dspr.dk</p>	  <p>AAPRAS, Armenia</p>	  <p>Zveza drustev-slovensko zdravniško drustvo, SZPREK, Slovenia</p>
  <p>Sociedade Portuguesa de Cirurgia Plástica Reconstrutiva e Estética (SPCPRE) www.spcpre.pt</p>	  <p>The Irish Association of Plastic Surgery IAPS www.plasticsurgery.ie/</p>	  <p>PRASAK, Albania</p>	  <p>Ukrainian Association of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons(UAPRAS) www.uapras.org</p>				

The European Society for Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery ESPRAS updates the information and contacts of each European national Society in Plastic Surgery.

- Full name of your society
- Website
- Logo
- Contacts of Society Office and President

Please update the contacts of your society by sending:

Please send information to office@espras.org.

Meetings and Congresses of European Societies in Plastic Surgery in 2023/24

Linda Gloor, ESPRAS Office, Switzerland

ESPRAS will collect and spread data on National and European Meetings and congresses throughout Europe for the information of our members. Please send detailed information on your national meeting to newsletter@espras.org.

Austria

61. Jahrestagung der Österreichischen Gesellschaft für Plastische, Ästhetische und Rekonstruktive Chirurgie **ÖGPRÄC**. 05. - 07.10.2023 in Salzburg, Austria
<https://www.conconcept.at/de/26/OeGP>
[AeRC-2023](#)

Bosnia and Herzegovina

5 in 1 Congress
amongst others 13th BPRAS Association of the Balkans Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Societies Congress and ESPRAS Symposium Secondary Problems with Breast Implants, 19.-22.9.2024, Sarajewo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Finland

SCAPLAS Congress 2024, Scandinavian Plastic Surgery, Helsinki June 12.-14th 2024, <https://scaplas2024.org/>

France

Congrès National **SoFCPRE** 2023 16. - 19.11.2023 in Montrouge, France
<https://www.sofcpre-evenement.com/>

Germany

53. Jahrestagung der Deutschen Gesellschaft der Plastischen, Rekonstruktiven und Ästhetischen Chirurgie **DGPRÄC** 14. - 16.09.2023 in Heidelberg, Germany
www.dgpraec-2023.de

Italy

71° congresso nazionale della **SICPRE** 21. - 23.09.2023 in Rome, Italy
<https://sicpre2023.it/>

Sweden

Scandinavian Aesthetic Surgery Meeting 08. - 09.09.2023 in Göteborg, Sweden
<https://slf.se/spkf/kalender/okategoriserad/scandinavian-aesthetic-surgery-meeting/>

Spain

55. Congreso de la **SECPRE**, 04. -
06.10.2023 in Valencia, Spain
<https://secpcongreso.org/>

Switzerland

59. Jahrestagung der Schweizerischen
Gesellschaft für Plastische, Rekonstruktive
und Ästhetischen Chirurgie **SGPÄRC** 29. -
30.09.2023 in Basel, Switzerland
<https://plasticsurgery.ch/de/fachwelt/jahrestagung/jahrestagung>

Turkey

Cadaveric Training Course in Craniofacial
Anomalies and Maxillofacial Surgery, 09-
10 September 2023, Istanbul, Turkey,
<http://kraniyofasiyal2023.org/>

Balkan Association of Plastic
Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery
Congress, 13.-16. September 2023, Konya,
Turkey, <http://balkanplasticsurgery.org>

Cadaveric Training Course in Orthognathic
Surgery, 22.-23. September 2023, Ankara,
Turkey, <http://www.ortognatik2023.org/>

Non-Surgical Aesthetic Procedures Course,
23.-24. September 2023, Istanbul, Turkey,
<http://estetikokulu2022.org/>

Recent Advances in Surgery & Burn, 12.-
14. October 2023, Ankara, Turkey,
<https://burnmeeting2023.com/>

45th National Congress of the Turkish
Society of Plastic Reconstructive and
Aesthetic Surgery, 28.-31. October 2023,

Ankara, Turkey,
<https://plastikcerrahi2023.org/>

All About Breast Reconstruction:
Cadaveric Training Course, 08-10
December 2023, Istanbul, Turkey,
<http://www.breast-reconstruction.org/>

U.K.

BAPRAS Congress 2023 29.11. -
01.12.2023 in Newcastle, U.K.
<http://www.bapras.org.uk/professionals/training-and-education/bapras-events/bapras-congress-2023>

Ukraine

ICAMPS Congress 2023, Charitable
International Congress, 22.- 23.9.2023
Kyev, Ukraine, <http://icamps.com.ua/en/>