

**Annual General Meeting**  
**Sunday 25 May 2025, 18:25 – 19:25 CEST**  
**Tirol room, ECTS 2025, Innsbruck, Austria**  
**MEETING MINUTES**

To access supporting documents, slides and meeting recording, please visit [MyECTS](#).

**1. Welcome & President's Report – Peter Pietschmann**

The ECTS President, Peter Pietschmann, welcomed all attendees.

He informed all participants that the meeting was held live. Voting is possible for ECTS members only for onsite attendees by voting cards collected by staff

Then Peter Pietschmann presented the agenda for the Annual General Meeting.

**Declaration of quorum**

The General Assembly may deliberate validly if the quorum of 15 full members is present or represented is achieved. As the necessary quorum was present, ECTS President, Peter Pietschmann declared the meeting duly constituted.

**Motion 1 to approve the minutes of ECTS AGM of 24 May 2024**

ECTS members were invited to vote to approve the Minutes of the ECTS AGM held in Marseille on 24 May 2024. 55 members responded to the vote, 54 in favour and 1 abstained.

The resolution was therefore carried out by a simple majority.

**ECTS Board Elections Results and presentation of incoming Board members**

ECTS President Peter Pietschmann presented the ECTS 2024-2025 Board composition and thanked members leaving Board:

Bo Abrahamsen

Chrisitan Meier

Geert Carmeliet

4 nominations had been sought from the members for 4 vacant positions on the ECTS Board of Directors. All nominees were thanked for their interest and the following members were re-elected:

Heide Siggelkow (re-appointed for second term)

Björn Busse (re-appointed for second term)

following members were elected:

Martina Rauner

Polyzois Makras

2 nominations had been sought from the members for n the ECTS President Position:

Nuria Guañabens

Martine Cohen-Solal.

Martine Cohen-Solal was elected as new President-Elect.

ECTS President Peter Pietschmann presented the ECTS Board 2025-2026 composition and informed that Jeroen Geurts will retire from the Board, as ECTS Academy representative.

The ECTS Academy has appointed Jakob Starup Linde as new Academy chair on the ECTS Board of Directors.

Peter Pietschmann asked ECTS members to vote on Resolution 2: appoint Jakob Starup-Linde to the ECTS Board. 55 members responded to the vote, 54 in favour and 1 abstained. The resolution was carried out unanimously.

Peter Pietschmann congratulated Jakob and thanked Jeroen for his continued support to the ECTS Board.

President presented composition of new Board:

ECTS Board 2025-2026 composition

Peter Pietschmann (President 2023-2026)

Martine Cohen-Solal (President-Elect 2025-2026)

Martina Rauner (Secretary and committee coordinator)

Polyzios Makras (Treasurer)

Björn Busse (Education committee Chair)

Claudine Blin (Basic Science committee chair)

Willem Lems (Clinical Science committee chair)

Salvatore Minisola (Research committee chair)

Heide Siggelkow (Communication committee chair)

Michaela Tencerova (ECTS Academy representative)

Jakob Starup Linde (ECTS Academy representative)

## **2. Financial Update Report-Christian Meier**

The 2024 end of year accounts, 2025 and 2026 strategic budgets were presented by ECTS Treasurer, Christian Meier and are available to members in the [AGM lounge](#).

Accordingly, to the ECTS bylaws, these need to be approved by the ECTS members, together with the discharge of the directors.

#### **Remarks concerning the 2024 Accounts:**

- The financial result of the year was –102,368,86 € compared to the estimated loss of –71250,00€ which was approved during the 2024 Annual General Meeting.
- We were able to increase our revenues, and we considerably lowered the operating expenses.
- Christian Meier also showed the ECTS liabilities and the cash at bank of over 964786,08€.

The 2024 accounts were unanimously approved by 55 members who voted in favour.

#### **Remarks concerning the 2025 budget.**

- ECTS Congress 2025, the main source of income, was held as a live event.
- In 2024 the members approved the 2025 budget with an estimated loss of 51527€
- After new forecasts, the final loss is predicted for -120149 € Reason for this decrease is lower expected income from congress and lower industry support.

Full details of the 2025 ECTS budget are available to members only in the [AGM lounge](#).

During the discussion, Stuart Ralston raised a concern regarding the high operational costs and inquired about the strategies being considered to reduce them.

In response, the Board acknowledged the concern and noted that cost-efficiency measures are currently under review, with further updates to be shared in the next meeting.

The revised 2025 budget was unanimously approved by 55 members who voted in favour.

#### **Remarks concerning the 2026 budget.**

- Budget expectations are based on physical events.
- Operational expenses will be kept stable, but a loss of -89004,00€ is predicted.

ECTS Treasurer Christian Meier asked ECTS members to vote for Resolution 5: Motion to adopt 2026 Budget. 55 members responded to the vote: 53 in favour, 2 rejected.

#### **Finance and Corporate Engagement Action Group**

Christian Meier as a Chair of the Finance and Corporate Engagement Action Group presented Group composition and current tasks.

ECTS Treasurer Christian Meier asked ECTS members to vote for Resolution 6: Motion Discharge of the Board of Directors from liability for the financial year ending 31 December 2024. 54 members responded to the vote: 52 in favour, 2 abstained.

### **3. Secretary Report-Geert Carmeliet**

ECTS Secretary, Geert Carmeliet, presented report on ECTS 2024 Membership with following numbers:

#### **2024 MEMBERSHIP**

Full membership Regular €115 – 266

Full membership Student €55 – 136

Full members Reach the World €75 – 8

Supporter membership regular €95– 22

Supporter membership student €45 – 22

Supporter membership Reach he World €45 – 3

Free memberships-62

#### **AFFILIATED MEMBERSHIP**

21 European national societies – 8,000 members

10 international societies – 10,500 members

IFMRS was reorganized and consists now of a Board of Directors and Council. Claus Glüer, representing ECTS, was elected as Board member. Other ECTS members are part of different working Groups (big data, future global leaders, education)

Geert Carmeliet presented and explained ECTS structure and governance as below:

- ECTS BOARD OF DIRECTORS - Elected by members for 3 years, once renewable
- ECTS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - Finance and strategy  
President, President-elect or Past-president, Treasurer, Secretary and Executive Director
- ECTS COMMITTEES & ACTION GROUPS - composed of ECTS members  
19 Action Groups with over 90 members.
- ECTS STAFF – Elmarie Herloff-Petersen, Dorota Doszko-Nowak, Aimée Parducho, Martyna Sikorska
- ECTS CONGRESS Secretariat – 2025: Interplan supported by Elmarie Herloff-Petersen

Geert presented possibilities of engagement into committees and action groups for ECTS members.

#### **4. Committee Reports-Committee Chairs**

ECTS Committee Chairs presented reports on Committees activities.

Board Members informed briefly about composition and activities of below committees:

##### **Education Committee – Chaired by Björn Busse**

Action Groups composition as below:

- PhD training Action Group: Cristina Sobacchi (Co-chair leaving), Carmen Huesa (new co-chair) Carolina Medina-Gomez, Katharina Jahn-Rickert, Jelena Jadzic, Karan Shah (Academy)
- Clinical Training Action Group: Elena Tsourdi (Co-Chair), Elizabeth Curtis, Lars Folkestad, Felix von Brackel (Academy), Ursula Heilmeyer
- E-learning Action Group: Petar Milovanovic (Co-Chair), Cristina Sobacchi, Natalie Butterfield, Adalbert Raimann, Biagio Palmisano (Academy), Steve Stegen, Michael Laurent, Donata landolo

Main activities:

- 18th ECTS PhD Training course

Location: Inter University Center, Dubrovnik, Croatia

Organisers: Björn Busse, Lovorka Grgurevic, Petar Milovanovic, Imke Fiedler, Donata landolo, Cristina Sobacchi

Dates: 19-22 October 2024

- 19<sup>th</sup> PhD Training course

Location: Potsdam, Germany

Date: 7-9 November 2025

Organisers: Björn Busse, Carmen Huesa, Carolina Medina Gomez, Katharina Jähn-Ricker, Jelena Jadzic, Karan Shah

4th Clinical Training course in metabolic bone diseases

Location: Online (broadcasted from Dresden, Germany)

Dates: November 14 and 17 2025

Organiser: Elena Tsourdi, Felix von Brackel

- Webinars (12/year)

### **Research Committee – Chaired by Salvatore Minisola**

Composition of Action Groups:

- Grants and Awards Action Group: Anna Teti (Co-chair- leaving), Amina Valjevac-leaving, Pawel Szulc-leaving, Roger Gomis-leaving, Christina Moeller Andreasen, New members: Sonja Gamsjaeger (Co-Chair), Sara Gonnelli, Imana Sokolovic, Carmen Huesa

Mission: the evaluation of applications (together with external reviewers) for Named Awards and Best article Award (in the past Fellowship grants)

This is achieved by sharing opinions and reaching consensus during teleconferences throughout the year

Salvatore Minisola presented winners of the 2025 Named Awards:

Maria Luisa Bianchi Award: Emma Duncan  
Steven Boonen Award: Gustavo Duque  
Philippe Bordier Award: Franz Jakob  
Iain T Boyle Award: Carolina Medina-Gomez  
Mike Horton Award: Martina Rauner

Then Salvatore presented Excellence in Research Award winner- Theresa Guise

Next Salvatore informed about winners of 2025 Best Article Awards:

Clinical Award: Morten Svarer Hansen  
Basic Award: Yasmine Hachemi  
Basic Award: Maria Materozzi

- Academy Selection Action Group: Stuart Ralston (Co-Chair), Eric Hay -leaving, Ciro Menale, Jeroen Geurts, Nathalie Bravenboer; New members: Michela Rossi

We evaluated the applications of seven basic, and five clinical applicants. Seven applications were sent out for external review. Three basic and one clinical application were finally accepted.

This year, we implemented for the first time a direct interview with applicants, following internal and external reviews.

New appointed Academy members:

Federica Saponaro,

Nikola Stokovic,

Eva Maria Wölfel,

Morten Hansen

### **Clinical Science Committee – Chaired by Willem Lems**

Presented by Peter Pietschmann.

-Clinical Practice Action Group: Athanasios Anastasilakis (Co-chair), John Carey-leaving, Stella D'Oronzo (Academy)-leaving, Julien Paccou, Tim Rolvien, Maria Yavropoulou, Anda Naciu, Barbara Hauser-new, Anne Sophie Sølling-new

Action group activities:

Online meeting six times a year and discussion by e-mails

Physical meeting in the annual ECTS congress

Organise webinars

Promote new ideas about guidelines and initiatives

Coordinate multi-center, multi-national research projects

Evaluate and propose endorsement of guidelines/consensus from other scientific societies

Support new projects upon the request of ECTS members

Publications for the state-of-the-art in 2024/2025:

- ECTS endorsed publications Basic and Clinical Scientists Working Together-Do We Make the Best of Both Worlds? (published in CTI)
- Prevention and treatment of glucocorticoid-induced osteoporosis in adults: recommendations from the European Calcified Tissue Society (published in EJE)
- Conservative Treatments in the Management of Acute Painful Vertebral Compression Fractures: A Systematic Review and Network Meta-Analysis (published in JAMA Netw Open)
- Osteoporotic Fractures: Diagnosis, Evaluation, and Significance from the International Working Group on DXA Best Practices (in collaboration with EANM, CANM, IOF, ESCEO, ISCD, ASBMR)
- Treating osteoporosis with denosumab and bisphosphonates in the long-term: facts, uncertainties and assumptions. A narrative review by the Clinical Action Group of the European Calcified Tissue Society (ECTS) (under revision in Bone)-Rare Bone Diseases Action Group: Martine Cohen-Solal (Co-chair), Natasha Appelman-Dijkstra, Gavin Clunie, Corinna Grasmann, Adalbert Raimann, Heide Siggelkow

Rare bone disease AG composition:

Appelman-Dijkstra (co-chair), T Funck Brentano, G Mortier, H. Siggelkow, G. Tabacco, R. Oheim, W. Lems (chair)

Rare bone disease AG is engaged in the below projects:

- webinars organization: Webinars: Six webinars organised in 2025, Eight in 2024 (collaboration ETCS with ERN-Bond)
- **Collaboration between ECTS and ERN-Bond**  
Data collection EuRR-Bone registry: melorheostosis and others to be feeded  
Contribution from ECTS members: please contact Natasha Appelman-Dijkstra
- **Publications for the state-of-the-art 2024/2025:**  
XLH guidelines with ASBMR / ECTS / other societies published in JCEM 2024/2025  
Melorheostosis data set and first results paper submitted since dec 24 at the Orphanet Journal  
ECTS transition in Rare Bone Diseases from child to adulthood: accepted for publication in CTI  
First guideline on chronic non-bacterial osteitis published in ARD
- **Ongoing consensus initiatives state-of-the-art in**  
Denosumab treatment in adults with Rare Bone diseases  
Mastocytosis.

### **Basic Science Committee – Chaired by Claudine Blin**

Composition: Kent Soe (Co-chair), Aline Bozec, Terhi Heino, Frédéric Velard, Jan Tuckermann, Biagio Palmisano

Main activities:

- Work on position papers on topical questions for basic science

Basic and clinical scientists working together? The best of both worlds (Published 2025)

Importance of considering sex differences in musculoskeletal research (In preparation)

- Advise on papers proposed for endorsement to the Board

Suggest topics for basic science sessions at the ECTS congress

- Propose incentives to attract new researchers and to encourage youngsters to stay in our field of research  
Come and discuss with us your expectation for ECTS and for the congress

### **Communication Committee – Chaired by Heide Siggelkow**

Composition of Action Groups:

-Social Media Action Group: Sonja Gamsjäger (Co-Chair-leaving), Michaël Laurent, Steven Stegen (leaving), Ursula Heilmeyer, Morten Steen Hanses, Gonzalo Sanchez-Duffhues, Melanie Haffner-Lunzer, Michela Rossi, Cayetano Galera Martinez (leaving), New members: Sara Gonelli, Maren Glüer, Eva Sebova, Drenka Trivanovic

Activities:

Posting of material received from ECTS and Newsletter on X, *Instagram*, LinkedIn, Bluesky and Facebook

- Available Information from members and committees
- Information on several platforms
- If possible short interviews, congress impressions, group pictures

-Newsletter Action Group: Antonio Maurizi (Co-chair) Allana Green, Alexander Rauch, Barbara Hauser (leaving), Antonia Sophocleous (leaving) NEW: Elisa Pucci, Imana Sokolovic, Geert Carmeliet Alexander Rauch

Main Activities:

To inform about the ECTS annual congress, activities and awards.

To present ECTS Board members and ECTS Committees.

With “News from the world” we comment on recent articles from our field or general articles about science careers, specific needs of certain groups of scientists, education trends or dilemmas.

### **Global Links Committee – Chaired by Geert Carmeliet**

Geert presented the composition of the Action Groups.

-**Central and Eastern Europe Action Group** chaired by Geert Carmeliet: Radmila Matijevic, Janana Belaya(leaving), Michaela Tencerova, Barbara Ostanek (leaving), Amina Valjevac

(leaving), Judit Donath (leaving), Martin Kuzma, Nerea Alonso Lopez, Drenka Trivanovic, Vit Zikan (new), Jelena Jadzic (new), Marko Stojanovic (new), Ivan Raska (new)

Activities of Central Europe Action Group:

- Mentoring: of early researchers together with ECTS Academy
- Facilitate interaction between researchers of CEE: get-together at ECTS congress
- Facilitate access to ECTS initiatives:
  - PhD training course and Academy retreat in CEE country (together with other action group)
  - Travel awards and awareness of funding problems
  - Lodging initiatives
- Visibility of ECTS within CEE: establishing contacts with CEE scientists/clinicians by using network and interaction with national societies  
(together with Membership Engagement Action Group)

#### **-IFMRS Action Group:**

composition: Gudrun Stenbeck, Katharina Jaehn, Jon Tobias(leaving), Elizabeth Winter (leaving), Carolina Medina-Gomez, Claus Glueer, New: Cristina Sobacchi, Shah Karan, Katerina Trajanoska

Activities of the IFMRS Action group:

- Visibility of MSK-research: ECTS-IFMRS joint session at ECTS annual meeting: Digital Twin

Sunday 25.05.2025 at 14:00: Liesbet Geris and Xinxu Li

- Guidelines to organise future joint sessions
- organisation of Herbert Fleisch Workshop for young PIs in musculoskeletal research

In 2026 in Europe together with Danish Diabetes and Endocrinology Academy (DDEA)

- Members also participate in IFMRS committees
- ✓ Big Data Core group (-omics): improving use of Musculoskeletal Knowledge Portal by providing information at meetings
- ✓ Future Global Leaders Core Group: contact with researchers – setting-up of webinars
- ✓ International Education Core Group:
  - Input for Global Action Plan, virtual workshops, international MSK education
  - Input for future format of Herbert Fleisch workshop

#### **East-meets-West Action Group:**

Composition: Salvatore Minisola- Chair, Wang Ling (leaving), Joon-Soon Kang (leaving), Yuuki Imai (leaving), Sanjay Bhadada, Marc Sim, Yi Li; new members: Sara Nahle, Jacopo di Gregorio, Jun-Il Yoo, Pawel Szulc

Salvatore presented selected committee activities such as:

- A paper on different aspects of hypoparathyroidism has been published In Osteoporosis International in 2025
- A paper on different vertebral fractures prevalence between Western and Eastern has been submitted
- A paper on different clinical practice guidelines on the treatment of osteoporosis between Eastern and Western societies is being finalised

### **ECTS Academy Report**

Jeroen Geurts, Michaela Tencerová, Jakob Starup Linde

ECTS Academy Co-chair Michaela Tencerova presented the report on Academy Activities.

Currently 28 members (38 Alumni), from across Europe, MDs and PhDs

Celebrating its 10-year Anniversary in 2025

Criteria to apply:

Within 10 years after first degree

Research excellence

Commitment to society

Recommendation from two supporting mentors

Academy is engaged in below congress activities:

- Open Foru
- NI Seminar
- 6 oral presentations for early career researchers (ECRs - basic and clinical) in a friendly interactive environment
- Anniversary session
- Poster Forum
- 10 oral poster presentations for ECRs (basic and clinical)
- Charity Event (In collaboration with ECTS)
- NI Mentoring session

Academy also organises activities throughout the year:

- Contributing to ECTS webinar series & training courses
- Intra-Academy meetings to promote collaborative research efforts
- Development of professional leadership skills
- Exchange program with JSBMR (Japan) and ANZBMS (Australia & New-Zealand)

### **Scientific Programme Committee - Chair Peter Pietschmann**

Peter presented composition of ECTS 2025 and ECTS 2026 Scientific Programme Committee:

Composition ECTS 2025

- Peter Pietschmann, Congress Chair (AT)
- Bo Abrahamsen, Congress Co-Chair (DK)
- Christian Muschitz, LOC Chair (AT)
- Lorenz Hofbauer Clinical Co-Chair (GER)
- Cristina Sobacchi Basic Co-chair (IT)
- Amina Valjevac (B&H)

- Andrea Burden (CH)
- Barbara Hauser (UK)
- Pawel Szulc (FR)
- Drenka Trivanovic (SER)
- Nathalie Sims (AUS)
- Sundeep Khosla (USA)

#### Composition ECTS 2026

- Peter Pietschmann, Congress Chair (AT)
- Martine Cohen-Solal, Congress Co-Chair (FR)
- Nuria Guanabens, LOC Chair (ES)
- Barbara Hauser Clinical Co-Chair (UK)
- Kent Søe Basic Co-chair (DK)
- Jan Tuckermann (DE)
- Roland Chapurlat (FR)
- Nadia Rucci (IT)
- Judit Donath (HU)
- Gonzalo Sanchez-Duffhues (ES)
- Aliya Khan (Canada)
- Andre van Wijnen (USA)
- 

The Committee has the following responsibilities delegated to it by the ECTS Board:

- Recommend speakers and topics for the ECTS annual meeting, ensuring an adequate gender, geographical and ethnic representation on the programme
- Assist in compiling preliminary programme
- Advise on general format and timetable for the meeting
- Advise on any potential conflicts of interest
- Advise on potential abstract reviewers
- Review abstracts in own subject area
- Attend abstracts selection meeting if required

The 2025 conference report:

- 4 Plenary symposia with 8 invited speakers.
  - Sessions designed to bring clinical and basic science together
- 6 Parallel symposia with 12 invited speakers.
  - One auditorium clinical + public health
  - One auditorium basic + translational
- Two debates
- 10 Meet the Expert sessions
- 2 Allied Health Professional Seminars
- A busy Friday pre-congress programme with 53 speakers, Open Fora and the National Day

**Q&A and closing – Peter Pietschmann**

Peter Pietschmann, ECTS President thanked everyone for participation in the meeting and closed the meeting.