



**EURO
SPINE**

EUROSPINE

**COVID 19: Another Challenging Year with
Important Decisions for Managing the Crisis**

Annual Report 2021



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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENTS

Dear Members, Friends, and Colleagues,

As the COVID-19 pandemic continued in 2021, we again had to adapt some of EUROSPINE's revenue-generating activities, often at short notice, to cope with the many government restrictions and again keep the safety of EUROSPINE members, sponsors, and stakeholders foremost in our minds. This member- and stakeholder-focused policy once more required flexibility from our staff to cope with the fast-changing situations.

Despite these difficult circumstances, the EUROSPINE Executive Committee, Committee members and staff coped with these challenges in a flexible and cost-efficient way, for the benefit of all our members and stakeholders. Educational offerings were taken online; our Annual Meeting was allowed to take place as a hybrid meeting in Vienna in the first week of October, in which the Programme Committee worked tirelessly to improve the educational programme's content and delivery. It was a great success, as more than 1600 participants joined us on-site, (thus enabling significant industry support) and almost 400 attended online. This remarkable outcome of the Annual Meeting in Vienna enabled us to make some provisions for re-launching various postponed projects in 2022. Altogether, we were able to deliver a profit of € 54,401 which, in the circumstances, is an outstanding achievement.

Furthermore, we widened and strengthened our educational offerings by launching the Spine Tuesday webinars, which have received a tremendously positive reception from a fast-growing number of participants. We also progressed further in other essential areas, such as Patient Line and Spine Tango. Patient Line saw an ongoing increase in users, and our EuSSAB meetings hosted virtually in 2021 successfully kept the lines of communication open. Meanwhile, Spine Tango, one of our two quality assurance activities alongside the Surgical Spine Centre of Excellence certification (SSoCE), has further strengthened its offering by simplifying the data collection process and enriching the implant catalogue to include the specification of 180'000 implants from 42 manufacturers.

On the membership side, we again welcomed a steady flow of new members, but at the same time, we experienced some issues with our membership data system. We consider our members' loyalty one of our core assets, so we have gone to great lengths to ensure that payment procedures for membership fees are simple and streamlined for members so that all information about our members is updated efficiently. We continue to work hard to improve the benefits for our members and create greater awareness of the many memberships benefit that EUROSPINE offers.

We want to extend a heartfelt thank you to our EUROSPINE directors and managers, our delegate of the Executive Committee, Beat Leimbacher, Emin Aghayev (Senior advisor Spine Tango), Wolf Frenkel (legal counsel), Mondial (PCO) and, of course, all our ExCom colleagues and all officers, without whom none of this would have been possible. Our primary focus for 2021-2022 is to ensure and regain financial stability for EUROSPINE, reinstate important programmes and continue to add value for our members and stakeholders.

We wish to call upon our EUROSPINE membership and all other interested parties for further support to enable us to move forward with a suite of high-quality membership services encompassing education, research, quality assurance, and premier meetings and events. Please register for events as soon as they are announced and plan to attend as many as possible, whether in-person or online. Your support is vital to enable EUROSPINE to move forward as the leading spine society in Europe, so we can come together to improve care for spine patients the world over.

Sincerely,

Everard Munting, President until 30/10/2021

Thomas Blattert, President from 1/11/2021 onwards

EUROSPINE STRATEGIC PRIORITIES 2021

At the beginning of another pandemic impact year 2022, EUROSPINE defined its core strategic priorities:

Strategic Considerations

Despite the pandemic, EUROSPINE had to cope with many – not only financial-related – problems. In principle, EUROSPINE's Executive Committee adhered to its way-forward strategy: to offer the international spine community best practice services. However, we made carefully-considered adaptations to our offering wherever the pandemic context forced us to adapt.

EUROSPINE strives to enable members and stakeholders to meet in person whenever possible to maximize interaction, networking and engagement with industry representatives. However, we worked hard to prepare and deliver online options when personal meetings were impossible because of reasons beyond our control.

Operational and Financial Management

- Manage the ongoing pandemic situation to the best of our ability
- Ensure the financial survival of EUROSPINE
- Put high emphasis on liquidity management
- Have an alternative plan for all core activities / be prepared to offer online options
- Further diversifying income sources

Meetings:

- Return whenever possible to an on-site Annual Meeting
- Continue to ensure high-quality scientific content
- Prepare for future market changes
- Offer an online option for participants who cannot travel

Education & Research

- Offer an entirely virtual EduWeek in case of ongoing Covid restrictions
- Completed the first cohort in November of the EUROSPINE Diploma in Interprofessional Spine Care (EDISC)
- Further strengthen the Spine Tuesday webinars offering
- Restart the research grant programme depending on our financial situation

Quality Assurance (Spine Tango and Hospital Certification (SSoCE))

- Further strengthen the Spine Tango programme as one of our core activities (gaining new participants)
- A specific focus of Spine Tango: benchmarking (reports and online statistics)
- Leverage our position as a provider for the Swiss Spine Registry to attract other national spine societies
- Maintain the momentum of our SSoCE programme as the leading certification for spine services across Europe

Membership & European Spine Societies Advisory Board (EuSSAB):

- Focus on delivering valuable membership benefits and create greater awareness of these benefits to new and existing members
- Resolve the declining payment behaviour shown by some members during Covid
- Ensure growth and diversity of our active membership and improve the balance between surgeons, non-surgeons and researchers
- Successful launch of our new Brain & Spine Journal – a joint project with EANS – creating additional benefits for our members

MEETINGS: BACK TO AN ON-SITE MEETING IN VIENNA

EUROSPINE Annual Meeting 2021

Fortunately, during the pandemic, we were allowed to host an in-person hybrid Annual Meeting 2021 in Vienna, Austria, which took place from 6–8 October 2021. This meeting was a hybrid event with a virtual meeting available to all who wished to attend but could not travel due to the pandemic. There were 1610 on-site participants and 381 who participated online. Compared with pre-pandemic meetings, we had minimal numbers of overseas participants, especially from the Americas and Asia. Hopefully, this situation will change for the 2022 event in Milan, as we hope for a continued improvement of the pandemic status, with further loosening of travel restrictions.

Altogether the participants' feedback for the hybrid meeting in Vienna has been overwhelmingly positive.

Our Programme Committee Aims to Constantly Improve the Attractiveness of our Annual Meeting and:

- Ensure expert review of the submitted abstracts
- Objectively select the best-submitted research projects
- Increase the number of papers nominated for awards
- Improve the Annual Meeting educational content
- Invite the most-appropriate experts and faculty to deliver the sessions
- Increase its visibility and make it more attractive for all participants – especially for members

Annual Meeting Structure Renovations and Attractive Committee Work

Following the suggestions received in the previous surveys, our programme committee has decided to expand the educational content of the meeting. Furthermore, we have introduced new educational content, such as panel discussions and an increased number of keynote lectures, while maintaining the attractive debates that delegates enjoy. Therefore, only oral podiums have been accepted for presentation, rising from 54 to around 90 this year, replacing the quick fire sessions. On another note, a new key feature at future Annual Meetings will be the inclusion of Breakfast Club sessions as part of the members'-exclusive educational content to offer members additional bespoke benefits.

Getting good candidates for our programme committee is and will remain essential for maintaining the high educational content of our Annual Meeting. The committee work remains challenging and labor-intensive but also attractive. Therefore, the Committee is interested to hear from candidates who are strongly interested in replacing the committee members when their term ends (usually after three years).

Displaying the Best Content for Meeting Programme with the Most-appropriate Experts

The changes in the programme design and focus on one specific topic have been perceived well by the delegates who attended the Vienna meeting. Our ongoing aim was to offer explicit educational content created and executed by the best faculty in specific areas within all sessions.

The programme had a combined range of research and educational content that aligned with delegates' interests. We fully met our goal to bring as many people as possible back to an on-site meeting.

EDUCATION: INTEGRATION INTO THE DIGITAL AGE WITH eLEARNING

EUROSPINE Education continued to develop and strengthen its digitalisation and Learning Management System to deliver and provide access to high-quality education, during the pandemic and beyond. The challenge of managing the pandemic situation enabled EUROSPINE to explore and deliver new innovative educational offerings.

Educational Digital Revamp

- The Education activities of EUROSPINE, historically offered on-site, had to change significantly as they moved to a virtual-only delivery model at short notice
- It was an outstanding achievement of our Education Committee chaired by Dominique Rothenfluh, the faculty and the education team led by Julie-Lyn Noël to set up a fully digitalised course at very short notice.

Virtual EduWeek

Because of pandemic restrictions and IRCAD (the research and education institute where our EduWeek usually takes place) was closed, we had to adapt, changing the blended learning approach to virtual-only delivery. EduWeek supported 179 participants, with 51 faculty, 81 hours of highly interactive live sessions, 13 sessions in 3 days (28–30 June 2021) and 35 hours of eLearning content.

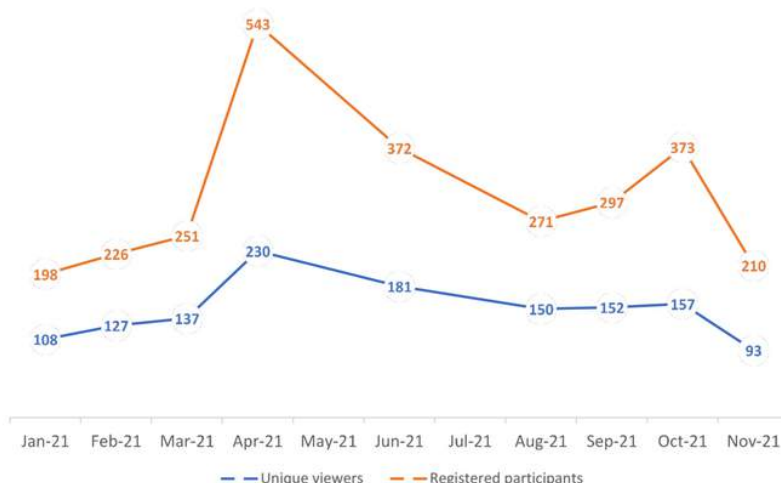
The Blended Learning Approach Included:

- eLearning component and live virtual component
- "Bring Your Case" sessions instead of skills laboratory sessions with simulators, sawbones and specimens.
- Meet the Expert from 3 industry partners.

Latest Innovation: Spine Tuesday Receives Positive Reception from a Fast-growing Number of Participants

In response to the need for ongoing education during the pandemic, we started this new, free innovative approach in August 2020 and offered 9 sessions in 2021. These sessions usually focus on a particular topic presented by a top faculty team, included with an open discussion planned every third Tuesday evening for 60 minutes. We experienced a solid trajectory of increasing numbers of registrations, attendees, and overall engagement of participants. In 2021, there were a total of 2741 registrations and 1335 unique viewers of Spine Tuesday, which again, given clinical pressures from the pandemic, was impressive.

SPINE TUESDAY REGISTRATION AND ATTENDANCE



2021: Spring Webinar Series Replacing the Traditional Spring Speciality Meeting

Historically, for four years, Spring Speciality meetings have been our on-site speciality events. However, due to the pandemic, this was changed to a twice-weekly Spring Specialty Webinar Series from May 6 – 20, 2021. The attendance for this approach has been more than promising, and fully met our expectations.

Returning to future on-site meetings or continuing with a series of Webinars will mainly depend on our stakeholders' and participants' interest in the two options, which include some financial and budget-related aspects that we must consider.

Diploma in Interprofessional Spine Care (EDISC) – Final Modules Delivered Virtually

The EDISC module's first 4 modules were delivered in person in Geneva in 2019. Then In 2021, the final 3 modules, were delivered virtually. Additionally, the EDISC second cohort modules 1 and 2 were online only. For future reference, the EDISC Task Force will offer courses online only as this will best serve clinicians to be educated around their clinical commitments, in a cost-effective way.

RESEARCH COURSES CONTINUES POSTPONED AND GRANT PROCESS PARTLY REACTIVATED

Task Force Research Course

The 2020 Task Force postponed its research course because of the COVID pandemic. We also decided early in 2021 to postpone the course until 2022.

Task Force Research Grant

The 2020 grantees for the research projects selected could not be given grants because of the Society's financial situation. Also, in 2021 no new grant could be funded as we had to strictly limit our cash spending. However, the priority remained on supporting the 2020 grantees with some proportion of their grants. At year-end, we agreed to pay 50% of the 2020 approved grants for the then-selected projects. Additionally, we reserved an amount of Euro 30'000 for new grants, as a strong signal of EUROSPINE's support for the research community.

It is for sure that research and fostering a community of researchers in the spine community will remain a pillar of the EUROSPINE mission and vision to deliver optimal care for patients who experience spinal disorders.

SPINE TANGO: POWERFUL NEW CAPABILITIES AND WIDER ACCEPTANCE JUST STARTED

Running the Swiss Implant Registry and Further Ongoing Improvements as a 2021 success story

EUROSPINE is committed to constantly developing its registry activities and providing high-quality services from its Spine Tango programme to all stakeholder groups, including national societies, hospitals, individual doctors, patients, implant suppliers, notified bodies, and national authorities for quality assurance. The regular services of Spine Tango are free for all participants, with a range of offered additional tailored services made possible.

For 2021 we have set the following specific goals:

- Implementation of a nested Swiss Implant Registry mandatory for all Swiss Spine clinics
- Further functional development of the registry platform incl., organisation, and user documents
- Enrichment of the implant catalogue with the data from other implant manufacturers
- A new proposal to the German Spine Society to re-launch the German Spine Registry
- New MedTech subscriptions

Based on the successful implementation of the Swiss Spine registry, we aim to improve our marketing efforts as we understand that the value of all improvements explicitly made in the last 2-3 years has not been perceived by most of the spine community in the way it should have been. For that purpose, we will run, in the future, more demonstration sessions for invited core representatives of national societies and/or larger hospitals. We will show all those interested the tremendous progress we have made regarding efficient data collection, with a stronger focus on benchmarking and quality management.

Further Functional and Organisational Development

The Spine Tango team, led by Emin Aghayev and NEC (our IT provider for the Spine Tango platform), are constantly working on the registry's functional and organisational development, including the creation of a new generation of hospital reports. Additional user documents were updated and further developed, and a few bespoke data requests received were processed. Registration of implants was further improved and simplified, among others, with a favourite function added. Platform language availability was further expanded, making the registry available in English, French, German, Italian, Portuguese, and Spanish.

Proposals and Workshops with National Societies

The team developed and submitted a carefully-considered proposal for re-launching the German Spine Registry in close collaboration with best-practice partners. Although the German Spine Society did not accept the proposal, it was an excellent opportunity to prove our capabilities to a wide range of spine specialists. Furthermore, we initiated additional e-workshops with other national spine societies, which indicates the growing interest in our Spine Tango programme with the Austrian Spine Society, and one with the Slovenian Spine Society, that resulted in potential opportunities for adopting Spine Tango as a platform for their national registry.

Implant Suppliers

One additional major industry partner subscribed to Subscription Service for implant suppliers. Altogether, we had in 2021 five industry partners that benefited from our programme and services.

Spine Tango 2021: Strong Takeaway Message:

The pandemic in 2021 was rich in new developments with implementing a nested registry - the Swiss Implant Registry, functional outcomes, the introduction of new languages of the platform, and further growth of the implant catalogue and the list of industry partners that benefited from reporting services.

Altogether we have 5 subscribing implant manufacturers and 42 manufacturers contributing to the implant catalogue with more than 180'000 implants. In addition, more than 120 hospitals participating in our programme are also constantly growing, and we have additional interests from 5 national societies to join the programme.

Spine Tango will further strengthen its communication and marketing efforts to promote the achievements of the past 2-3 years. We will continue strengthening our ties and relationship with national societies, industry partners, hospitals, and individual users by developing value-generating features and services – mainly focusing on benchmarking and enabling all participants to ensure best practice quality assurance.

MEMBERSHIP: CONTINUED GROWTH DESPITE PANDEMIC BUT ISSUES WITH OUR MEMBERSHIP SYSTEM AND PAYMENT DISCIPLINE OF EXISTING MEMBERS

Unfortunately, we encountered specific issues related to a sub-optimal data management system in 2021 and a declining willingness of members to pay their annual fees. Both cases are of great concern for EUROSPINE and are receiving our closest attention as we embed new systems for 2022. Nevertheless, we are delighted to welcome 125 new members from 38 different countries in 2021, with almost fifty per cent of our latest members joining in the 'Young Member' category.

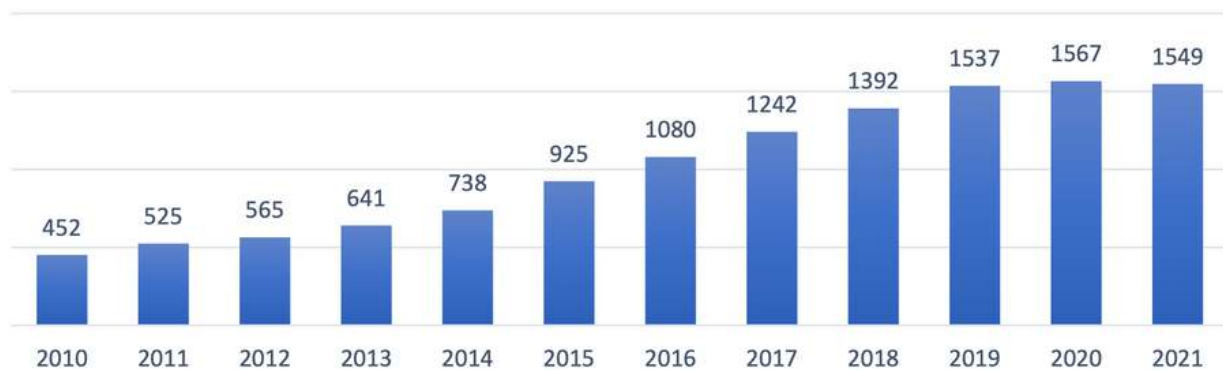
Thanks to Its Members, EUROSPINE Continues to Grow, but Some Serious Issues Must Be Solved Fast

Despite some cancellations and postponements of our in-person events due to COVID -19, we were able to offer invaluable benefits, such as multidisciplinary educational opportunities, eLearning, networking events, and scientific meetings. Events and activities slowly began to be held in person again; our annual meeting EUROSPINE 2021, was a success as a hybrid meeting, allowing an in-person and online conference in Vienna.

While many of our members demonstrated their loyalty, supporting EUROSPINE through this challenging period by continuing to pay their membership fees on time, others did not, which is an issue we must take care of promptly. Our analysis has found that our data management system was outdated and complex to use by members – including the payment procedure. With our new team on board, we are addressing these issues currently.

We regretfully expelled the members who have not paid their membership fees for more than two years, which explains our halt in total year-on-year membership growth.

EUROSPINE Membership Growth 2010–2021:



Other Core Priorities of the Membership Council:

We constantly want to learn our members' needs and discover why membership fee payments decline. For that purpose, we did a series of 4 short surveys to drive membership knowledge to aid strategic planning in 2022 and beyond.

- Defining an appropriate policy on optimal dealing with members with the lapsed subscription has become an essential task of the membership council.
- We are thankful for the many members who supported us over many years. Therefore, we introduced ribbons at the Annual Meeting displaying the duration of EUROSPINE membership and plan to extend this to loyalty certificates

- As a first action to simplify the membership payments, we introduced a 3-year payment option with a reduced membership tariff, further increasing its value.

We continue to work hard to improve and create better awareness of the many membership benefits EUROSPINE offers. At the same time, we want to thank all our members for their generous contributions and support over the past two years, which probably have been the most challenging year for EUROSPINE as a non-profit organisation.

We look forward to delivering quality services for our existing members, welcoming our new members to our international organisation, and continuing to grow by your side! Together we are EUROSPINE.

ADDITIONAL IMPORTANT ACHIEVEMENTS

European Spine Societies Advisory Board (EuSSAB)

EUROSPINE's EuSSAB provides an umbrella for all institutional members, intending to define common goals, identify challenges and develop strategies to address them in a mutual win-win situation.

Meanwhile, 26 countries represented by 29 Spine Societies are now accepted as institutional members after application and fulfilment of the rules of cooperation. In addition, our Committee is currently a council group with representation in the ExCom of EUROSPINE.

We have managed to get the national societies together more closely on our platform by having a virtual open update call 3-4 times a year. Fundamentally, all representatives of the national spine societies can participate in this call so that they stay informed and updated on what is happening from EUROSPINE's side.

Most Recent Achievements of EuSSAB

- For the second time after our success last year, in Helsinki 2019, we organised a EuSSAB pre-day course at the Annual Meeting in Vienna with the participation of EuSSAB members.
- We stuck to our policy to have a EuSSAB Spring meeting with the participation of most of our institutional members.
- We completed the National Societies SWOT analysis 2.0. with 18 countries providing input for an overall analysis of the different national societies' strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats. The goal is to find appropriate standard solutions for specific issues confronted by all national societies.
- We initiated the THEMIS Study as a high-priority project to analyse possible underrepresented groups and promote diversity and inclusivity in European Spine Societies.

Strong Need to Get More Proactive Involvement from EuSSAB Members:

Despite the incomparable initiatives and possibilities offered by EUROSPINE's EuSSAB within Europe, the communication and dissemination of information within the National Spine Societies do not appear to work optimally; this is an issue we want to improve further.

On a national level, our members have initiated proactive actions. The proactive involvement of our members is vital for addressing and solving the most burning problems of the spine community. Our goal is for all national societies to make the best use of all the benefits we offer, such as using our registry and getting easy and efficient access and support for all other EUROSPINE activities. National societies will also have the opportunity to bring up core issues they need to solve on the national level. If there is any chance to support them from the EUROSPINE side, we certainly will do so.

However, such an approach can only work if the national societies ensure that the representative they send to our virtual and on-site meetings has the necessary competencies and functions in their organisation to disseminate the messages brought back from these meetings.

We will discuss this constantly in our upcoming meetings to make fast and efficient progress in that respect. Our EuSSAB council will continue to fulfil its role as a platform within EUROSPINE and shelter all the institutional and national spine societies members.

PATIENT LINE: FAST-INCREASING PERCEPTION FROM THE PATIENT SIDE

The Patient Line group is a sub-committee of EUROSPINE. It is an integral part of our activities. They strive to educate patients on all matters concerning spinal conditions and treatments.

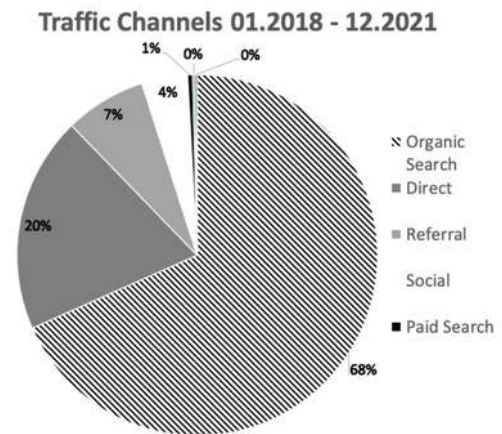
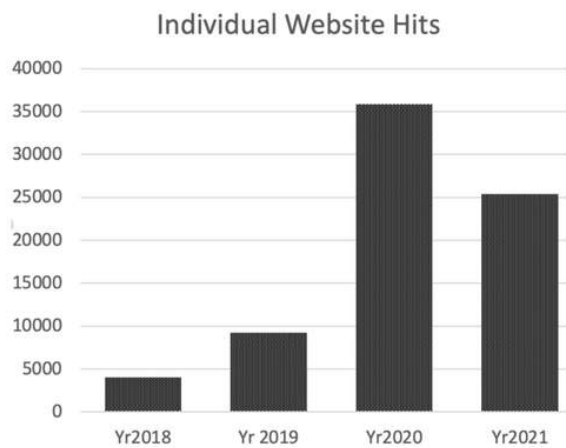
Clear Objectives for 2021 – Despite Financial Limitations

- Remain financially buoyant while providing an ongoing online presence
- Recognition of the diversity and fluidity of online presence and avenues of communication

Patient Line Specific Achievements:

- Regular committee meetings introduced four new committee members
- Publications: two newsletters, four new articles and one recent video
- 55 #PatientLine Thursday posts
- Significant budget savings

Patient Line Receives Great Recognition by Patients, Proven by Constantly Increasing Hits on the Website



Altogether the Patient Line Group continues to produce expert-written patient material, now translated into 14 languages. It is and will remain our core goal to keep our patients updated on core topics that are relevant to them.

BRAIN & SPINE JOURNAL

Brain & Spine: The New Official Scientific Journal of EUROSPINE and EANS

In April 2021, EUROSPINE and EANS signed the contract for their new official journal. The idea of joining forces for a new open-access journal was supported by the common understanding from both scientific societies that open access will be the future of scientific publications (also proven by the result of completed member surveys).

The 50/50 joint venture will enable both societies to offer their members additional benefits and ensure complete financial independence as they own the journal directly.

International Editorial Board with Members Representing Different Spine Disciplines

After the election of the two Editors-in-Chief (Frank Kandziora and Wilco Peul) by the Executive Committees of EUROSPINE and EANS, an editorial board was established. The editorial board includes 36 people: 12 members from EUROSPINE, 13 members from EANS, 5 people being members from both societies and 6 non-members. We established an equal distribution of members with neuro- and orthopaedic surgical backgrounds, plus 10 non-surgeons (basic scientists, physiotherapists, neurologists, epidemiologists, etc.). We are happy to have people from 18 different countries on board, including 6 non-Europeans.

Fast and Efficient Implementation

After implementing the Editorial Manager (software programme), the Brain & Spine website went online on 2 July 2021, and the journal was ready for admission on 7 July. We published our first editorial on 19 July, and the first publication of a scientific article was online on 6 August 2021. The abstracts of the EUROSPINE and EANS annual meeting were published starting on 30 September, and the journal was indexed in the "Directory of Open Access journals" on 3 December 2021.

During the first six months, the journal received 94 submissions of scientific papers: 42 dealing with brain topics and 52 dealing with spine topics. By the end of 2021, 30 papers have achieved approval for publication.

Additional Highlights/Plans for 2022

In 2022 we will apply to be listed in PubMed and the Emerging Sources Citation Index (Web of Science). Additionally, we are planning on being indexed in Google Scholar.

Our current top priority projects included establishing a Review of the Year Award, as we firmly believe that reviewers are the core contributors to a good scientific journal. We additionally want to establish a concept on special topic issues for the Association of National spine and Neurosurgical Societies to contribute to the journal as affiliated societies.

Member Support Is Fully Appreciated and Wanted

The journal had a very successful start that can and must be further leveraged by the ongoing full support of all our members to establish Brain & Spine as a leading high-class scientific journal.

You are all invited to submit your scientific papers or contact us if you want to participate in our journal in any other form. You can get your "Get your own picture" of the Brain and Spine Journal. Look us up on the internet, follow us on Twitter, or contact us at bas@elsevier.com

Frank Kandziora and Wilco Peul

TREASURER'S STATEMENT

Dear EUROSPINE Members,

This Treasury Report covers the 2021 fiscal year. It has been released well before the General Assembly 2022 to allow you adequate time to review the figures beforehand.

The Ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic Continues Onwards into the 2021 Financial Year with Our (Economic) Survival Still at High Risk.

Due to the prolonged repercussions of the COVID-19 pandemic, EUROSPINE again was forced to postpone or redefine most of its revenue-generating activities, whilst requesting much flexibility from all Committees and staff, which we must say; on every occasion, they showcased great vitality and valour.

Our proactive crisis management ultimately resulted in a solid financial plan which avoided all non-essential expenditures and postponed such vital projects, like the development of our new website. We gained approval for state support that, among other facts, recognised EUROSPINE's Spine Tango's essential function as a provider for the Swiss Spine registry. That resulted in our fiscal year ending with a small profit of € 54,401, a considerable and outstanding achievement under the given circumstances. This result was a promising step on the road to recovery from last year's loss of € 734,890 and has helped to stabilise our equity at a still low level of € 833,123 (2020: €778,722).

Additionally, EUROSPINE's Annual Meeting in Vienna took place as an on-site (hybrid) event, thanks to certain restriction been lifted, benefiting all our members, participants and stakeholders. Our education activities historically offered on-site had pivoted to a virtual-only delivery model at short notice, and the final modules of our Diploma in Interprofessional Spine Care (EDISC) were also delivered virtually. The postponement of the research courses and keeping the grant research process -at least for new grants - on hold for another year were also additional measures that positively impacted our financial situation.

Recovery of Revenues from the Annual Meeting and Educational Activities

Despite the income from Membership Fees declining by 35% to only €110,137 - a development which is of great concern to EUROSPINE - we still achieved total net revenue of €1,692,111 (+274%).

The strong revenue increase resulted from the higher profit gained from the hybrid on-site meeting in Vienna (compared to the profit from the 2020 pure virtual meeting), the delivery of all our online education activities, and increased revenues from our registry activities: Spine Tango.

EUROSPINE's financial performance remains strongly dependent on revenues generated by its Annual Meeting, which means that we can only reach the pre-Covid revenues of around € 2,2 Mio if people are willing to or able to attend conferences when unrestricted overseas travel is declared possible, without the travel limitations and the fear of contracting the virus.

Good Break-Even Results with A Small Profit of € 54,401

2021 was initially planned again as a year of investment. The budget approved in the General Assembly of 2020 was a loss of 550,600. However, the whole budget has been reassessed based on the pandemic situation. Several of our cost positions have been drastically cut, such as cancelling the planned Spring Meeting, avoiding infrastructure- related costs for the on-site education delivery, postponing our important website project, and discontinuing our research grant programme for another year.

Thankfully, we avoided most of the costs for cancelled courses again and did not incur travel costs for Council and Committee meetings with the transition from in-person to online.

All these strict cutting measures, short-term work, and state support (see footnote 3.4) finally enabled us to make some provisions for initiating the postponed website project in 2022 and still ending with a small profit of € 54,401.

Close Monitoring of EUROSPINE's Core Expenses

EUROSPINE's expenses are in the following categories:

- **Core Activities: Education and Research**

Since the restoration of our on-site meeting and recommencement of all our educational activities (compared to a pure virtual Annual Meeting and no education activities in 2020), our decision to make a small provision for new grants in 2022, and pay out 50% of the Research Grants being approved but not paid in 2020, this cost position has increased from € 57,777 to € 212,952, but is still, however, far away from the costs we had before Covid 19 (2019: € 849,311 / 2018: €644,676).

- **Special Projects (Spine Tango, Patient Line, Journals) and Committee Costs**

Special project expenses increased by 26% to € 579,576, mainly due to higher costs related to our Spine Tango registry. These higher costs, however, were more than compensated by higher income from Spine Tango, which further supported the intent to get our registry activities to a break-even level. Additionally, we made provision for the postponed strategy meeting of the EDISC task force, which was partially compensated by the lower costs for Patient Line.

- **Human Resource Expenses**

Human resources are and will remain EUROSPINE's highest cost. Despite transitioning all our educational activities to a virtual approach and "returning" to an on-site hybrid Annual Meeting, these events triggered an outcome of an additional demanding working load. However, our HR team prevailed by retrieving short-term work from Swiss government and discounts provided by our internal advisors, which helped keep the cost position of € 691,078, the same level as the year before.

Simultaneously, we also developed new job profiles for future roles to get advanced preparation for the fast-changing environment that calls for new technical capabilities and knowledge in different fields. In conclusion, our goal is to get additional internal expertise and experience for our core activities and to better balance the services that external providers provide.

- **Other Operating Expenses (office, IT, and marketing expenses)**

Operating expenses increased strongly from €322,000 to € 547,620 as we made a provision for the Website Project at year-end, initially planned for 2021 but postponed for liquidity reasons to 2022. This final provision – based on a revised offer of the pre-selected provider - was only possible because all the Covid-19 protocol measures followed, as described above, enabled us to do so.

The website project is and will remain a very complex and cost-intensive project that requires our full attention to ensure that we get a new modern IT structure in place combining different systems such as membership management, abstract handling and registrations for meetings and educational activities as optimal as possible.

Stabilising Impact of Small Profit on Balance Sheet

The solid break-even result with the small profit and the increased profit from our hybrid on-site meeting in Vienna stabilised our balance sheet and liquidity.

Our cash and liquidity position has strengthened. As of 31 December 2021, the cash position increased from € 1,088,228 (31 December 2020) to € 1.532,644, mainly due to a payment coming from Mondial before year-end for the profit made from the Annual Meeting in Vienna. At first glance, this looks comfortable; however, it is still below the cash position we had in former years before the pandemic (usually around € 2,000,000). Cash and liquidity management will remain a vital issue for EUROSPINE in the future as long as Covid-19 still might have a negative impact on our activities.

The profit of € 54,401 for the year slightly increased our equity from € 778,722 to € 833,123. It will be a core goal of EUROSPINE to strengthen further our equity position by getting back to a pre-pandemic level of around € 1,500,000. But no matter the difficulties faced; we will continue to move forward strategically and provide the best practice services.

Outlook for 2022

As we move onwards to 2022 and beyond, the development of the pandemic remains unclear so EUROSPINE will continue its proactive management of the COVID-19 pandemic. We will closely monitor our liquidity on whether we can hold our annual meeting in Milan again in person, as this will significantly impact on our income.

Our financial situation in 2022 will again depend on attracting as many delegates as possible to the EUROSPINE Annual Meeting 2022 in Milan and on Members paying their fees as early as possible, whilst we remain focused at the highest level to do everything possible on our side.

As Treasurer and Delegate of the ExCom, we are proud of the hard work put in by the EUROSPINE ExCom, Councils and Committees, with the ongoing success of managing another challenging year.

We are also grateful for the state and continuing industry support, without them, our survival would have been at significant risk.

Our Executive Council (ExCom) remains fully committed to our mission and vision, not only through managing the Society during a crisis but also by delivering best-practice services to our members and stakeholders at a reasonable cost. Please continue supporting us in continuing our advancement in spinal care worldwide.

With our very best regards,

Zdenek Klezl, Treasurer

Beat Leimbacher, Delegate of the ExCom

6302 Zug
Baarerstrasse 95
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Telefax 041 726 78 30
office@vonflue.ch

Report of the statutory auditors
on the limited statutory
examination to the
General Meeting of
**EUROSPINE, the Spine Society of
Europe**
8610 Uster

Zug, August 16, 2022

As statutory auditors, we have examined the financial statements (balance sheet, income statement and notes) of **EUROSPINE, the Spine Society of Europe** for the year ended **December 31, 2021**.

These financial statements are the responsibility of the board of the society. Our responsibility is to perform a limited statutory examination on these financial statements. We confirm that we meet the licensing and independence requirements as stipulated by Swiss law.

We conducted our examination in accordance with the Swiss Standard on the Limited Statutory Examination. This standard requires that we plan and perform a limited statutory examination to identify material misstatements in the financial statements. A limited statutory examination consists primarily of inquiries of company personnel and analytical procedures as well as detailed tests of company documents as considered necessary in the circumstances. However, the testing of operational processes and the internal control system, as well as inquiries and further testing procedures to detect fraud or other legal violations, are not within the scope of this examination.

Based on our limited statutory examination, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements do not comply with Swiss law and the society's articles of incorporation.

We draw to your attention that the financial statements have not been submitted to the Annual General Assembly within six months after year end as stipulated by Art. 699 of the Swiss Code of Obligations.

TREUHAND VON FLÜE AG



H.-P. von Flüe
lic.oec. HSG
licensed audit expert



G. Biotti
auditor in charge
licensed audit expert

Enclosures:

- Financial Statements (balance sheet, income statement and notes)

EUROSPINE, the Spine Society of Europe, 8610 Uster / Switzerland
**Balance sheet as of 31 December
(in EUR)**

	Notes	2021	2020
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents		1 532 644	1 088 228
Trade accounts receivables			
due from third parties		12 352	10 000
Other short-term receivables		760	10 240
Prepaid expenses	2.1	40 795	32 116
Accrued income			
due from third parties		125 406	35 947
due from members		11 390	32 670
Total current assets		1 723 347	1 209 201
TOTAL ASSETS		1 723 347	1 209 201
LIABILITIES AND SOCIETY'S EQUITY			
Short-term liabilities			
Trade accounts payables		111 628	134 220
Other short-term liabilities		13 860	9 163
Prepayments from members		20 595	9 270
Prepayments for education	2.1	7 000	237 326
Accrued expenses		627 365	40 500
Total short-term liabilities		780 448	430 479
Long-term liabilities			
Long-term interest-bearing liabilities			
due to third parties	3.4	109 776	0
Total long-term liabilities		109 776	0
Total liabilities		890 224	430 479
Society's equity			
Society capital		778 722	1 513 612
Profit / (loss) for the year		54 401	(734 890)
Total society's equity		833 123	778 722
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SOCIETY'S EQUITY		1 723 347	1 209 201

EUROSPINE, the Spine Society of Europe, 8610 Uster / Switzerland

**Income statement for the year ended 31 December
(in EUR)**

	Notes	2021	2020
Memberfees		110 137	167 724
Profit EuroSpine Speciality Webinar		7 300	0
Profit EuroSpine Annual Meeting	4.1	742 270	231 125
Education / TFR / Spine Tango		832 404	218 107
Total net revenue		1 692 111	616 956
Meetings	4.2	(79 999)	(44 067)
Education		(27 778)	(9 915)
Research Task Force, Course		(175)	0
Research Task Force, Grants		(105 000)	(3 795)
Total Activities		(212 952)	(57 777)
Spine Tango		(499 054)	(370 722)
Patient Line		(11 627)	(29 836)
Journals		(36 068)	(36 000)
EDISC / Provision Task Force Meeting		(25 000)	0
Spine Centres of Excellence		0	(16 772)
Foundation		(5 827)	0
Awards		(2 000)	(2 000)
EOGA and virtual GA		0	(1 575)
Total Projects		(579 576)	(456 905)
ExCom		(9 204)	(24 901)
Research Task Force		0	(2 841)
Smaller Committees		(328)	(22 896)
Cooperation with related societies		201	(380)
Total Committees		(9 331)	(51 018)
Total Activities / Projects / Committees		(801 859)	(565 700)
Gross profit		890 252	51 256

EUROSPINE, the Spine Society of Europe, 8610 Uster / Switzerland

**Income statement for the year ended 31 December
(in EUR)**

	Notes	2021	2020
Gross profit		890 252	51 256
Personnel expenses	3.1	(691 078)	(695 798)
Office and services expenses		(169 690)	(147 055)
Marketing expenses		(24 600)	(23 592)
IT and website		(345 106)	(131 343)
PR and annual report		(8 224)	(20 010)
Total other operating expenses		(547 620)	(322 000)
Operating result		(348 446)	(966 542)
Financial expenses		(10 959)	(12 276)
Currency exchange expenses realised		(3 276)	(1 027)
Currency exchange expenses unrealised		5 206	(20 407)
Total financial income and expenses		(9 029)	(33 710)
Extraordinary or prior periods income and expenses	2.2 / 3.4 / 4.3	411 876	265 362
Profit / (loss) for the year		54 401	(734 890)

EUROSPINE, the Spine Society of Europe, 8610 Uster / Switzerland

Notes to the financial statements 2021 (in EUR)

1. General information

These financial statements were prepared according to the principles of the Swiss Law on Accounting and Financial Reporting (Art. 957 - 962 Swiss Code of Obligations).

1.1 Currency and exchange rates

The functional currency of the Company is Euro, as it is the currency of the primary economic environment in which the entity operates. The reporting currency of the Company is Euro.

In preparing the financial statements of the Company, transactions in currencies other than the Company's functional currency are recorded at the rates of exchange prevailing at the date of the transactions.

2. Key accounting and valuation principles

The main accounting and valuation principles used, which are not already specified by the Code of Obligations, are described as follows:

2.1 Prepayments

Prepayments have been made and received for meetings and education activities in the following years.

2.2 Provision / Hidden reserves

A provision of EUR 300'000 has been made in 2016 in order to secure the long-term prosperity of the society and to straighten income fluctuation over the years. In 2020 this position was released to P&L.

Net release of hidden reserves EUR 0 (previous year: EUR 300'000).

3. Additional information

3.1 Number of full-time equivalents

The annual average number of full-time equivalents for the reporting year, as well as the previous year, did not exceed 10.

3.2 Pension scheme liabilities

In 2021 there are liabilities towards the pension scheme of EUR 3 (previous year: EUR 0).

EUROSPINE, the Spine Society of Europe, 8610 Uster / Switzerland

Notes to the financial statements 2021 (in EUR)

3.3 Tax exemption

The exemption from income and capital taxes was approved by the Cantonal Tax Office Zurich on 31 July 2008. EuroSpine is a non-profit organisation.

3.4 Corona Pandemic

On 11 March 2020, the World Health Organisation declared the Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak to be a pandemic in recognition of its rapid spread across the globe. Many governments are taking increasingly stringent steps to help contain or delay the spread of the virus. Currently, there is a significant increase in economic uncertainty which is, for example, evidenced by more volatile asset prices and currency exchange rates.

For the best of society knowledge, there is no impact on the recognition and measurement of assets and liabilities. Due to the uncertainty of the outcome of the next events, the society cannot reasonably estimate the impact these events will have on the society's financial position, results of operations or cash flows in the future.

However, the society has implemented short-term work for its employees in Switzerland and other cost-cutting measures. Additionally the society has received a non-refundable compensation of CHF 480'000 and a loan of CHF 120'000 in 2021 from Canton of Zurich to secure liquidity and going concern. Further measures are under discussion to secure going concern in case return to normal business will remain difficult.

The pre-registration for short-time work has been approved by the Canton of Zurich. From January-October 2021, compensation of EUR 41'105 was accrued, in December 2020 EUR 4'689. These are booked as an expense reduction in personnel expenses.

3.5 Significant events after the balance sheet date

There are no significant events after the balance sheet date which could impact the book value of the assets or liabilities or which should be disclosed here.

EUROSPINE, the Spine Society of Europe, 8610 Uster / Switzerland

**Notes to the financial statements 2021
(in EUR)**

4. Other notes

4.1 Profit EuroSpine virtual congress 2020 and hybrid congress Vienna 2021

Congress accounts were prepared by external service providers. No audit procedures agreed were performed for the virtual congress 2020 and for the hybrid congress 2021. The net results of these congresses are received by EuroSpine.

4.2 Loss Spring Specialty Meeting

Congress accounts were prepared by external service providers. The Spring Meeting 2021 was conducted online due to COVID. The expenses in 2021 are mainly accreditation, cancellation of the onsite meeting and conversion to online webinars.

No Spring meeting was held in 2020 due to COVID. The expenses 2020 are mainly preparation and cancellation fees for the congress.

No procedures agreed in accordance with the Swiss Auditing Standard 920 were performed in respect to these congress statements.

4.3 Explanations concerning extraordinary or prior periods items in the profit and loss account

	2021	2020
Release of provision from 2016	0	300 000
Correction differences memberfees	(32 752)	(33 010)
Expenses Meeting 2020	5 524	(1 628)
Canton of Zurich, Non-refundable compensation Corona Hardship programme, CHF 480'000	439 104	0
	<hr/> 411 876	<hr/> 265 362

There are no other issues that need to be disclosed in accordance with Art. 959c Swiss Code of Obligations.

Members only/ Physical meeting**Thursday, 7 October 2021, 17:40–18:40h****Meeting Venue:** Room Strauss 3, Level 1Reed Exhibitions Messe Wien, Messeplatz 1, 1021 Vienna, Austria

The GA was legally constituted in accordance with the Statutes and Swiss law. Based on the proxies received, and those present, the meeting had the required quorum and vote outcomes are based on the number of valid proxies received, as well as those cast at the meeting.

76 members present, whereof 15 online. 7 Proxy votes received via e-mail.

1. Welcome and Approval of the last minutes*Joerg Franke, Secretary EUROSPINE*

GA minutes: 9 October 2020 Virtual Meeting – approved

2. Managing the Pandemic*Everard Munting, President EUROSPINE and Member of the Executive Committee***COVID-19 will have lasting financial implications**

- 2020 has been the most challenging year in EUROSPINE's history
- Our equity has been cut in half and it will take years to recover
- Our service offerings, however, have been further enhanced and remain best-practice
- We need your support: register for our events and pay your membership fees early

The ExCom has mitigated the negative impact of COVID-19 on EUROSPINE

- Reduced costs wherever possible and obtained government funding in May 2021
- Attained key objectives set for 2020-21, including those that generate additional/new revenue
- Digitalised educational offerings and created a virtual meeting in 2020 (hybrid meeting in 2021)
- Cancelled/postponed all activities well in advance, avoiding unnecessary cancellation costs

3. Current Status / Major Achievements 2020/2021

Despite setbacks caused by COVID-19, EUROSPINE has continued to focus on its four strategic priorities:

1. Four priorities for 2019/20

- Meetings, Education, Research and Quality Assurance (Spine Tango & SSCoE)

Meetings

- Developed an interactive digital platform to host high-quality virtual meetings
- Created a flexible hybrid option for EUROSPINE 2021
- Ensured the continued delivery of premium scientific content

Education

- Presented EduWeek and EDISC modules online in 2021
- Transitioned to blended learning for EduWeek 2022

Research

- Put research grants on hold out of financial necessity until cost-recovery activities fully resume

Quality Assurance (Spine Tango and SSCoE)

- Successfully launched as service provider for Swiss Spine registry
- Created a business model for industry to recover past costs and ensure future investments
- Continued certifications of new spine centres and encouraged others to apply

2. Membership

- EUROSPINE members and EuSSAB
- Members can support EUOSPINE best by paying membership fees early and participate and further promote all our activities

3. Stakeholders

- Focus on Patients, Spine20 initiative, Sponsors (MedTechs and Pharma)

4. Organisation

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS 2020/2021

Following initial cancellations/postponements in early 2020, we can now host all meetings as virtual events as required – despite onsite meetings will remain the preferred option

Achievements

- EUROSPINE meeting remains the ‘flagship event’ for spine professionals in Europe
 - Continued delivery of premium scientific content
 - *THE* meeting place for all our members, partners, and stakeholders
- EUROSPINE 2020 successfully transformed – at short notice – into a fully virtual event
- Spring Specialty Meeting 2021 replaced by a webinar series held from 6–20 May 2021
- EUROSPINE 2021 set up as a hybrid event to be held in Vienna, Austria (virtual event for those unable to attend in-person or in case of cancellation)
- If hybrid remains the future format for all our Annual Meetings will be decided later

Our new eLearning platform offers high-quality educational content in an easy-to-access format

EduWeek / eLearning achievements

- Virtual EduWeek 2021 a success in terms of content as well as financially
- 2022 EduWeek planned as hybrid week with blended learning and skills lab (27-29 June, IRCAD)
- Online platform development is supported by an external advisor whose costs are mainly covered by Medtronic
- Spine Tuesday webinars: high registration numbers. Coming soon: free access to all recordings and CME credit for members, subscription required for non-members

EDISC achievements

- EDISC non-surgical 7-module diploma programme successfully held online in 2021
- EUROSPINE’s unique inter-professional spine care education programme launched
- Costs of the new online programme covered fully by the revenue generated
- EDISC to be held online again in 2022

EUROSPINE continues to support research, educate researchers, and foster an active research community

Task Force Research

- Unfortunately, Task Force Research courses had to be cancelled twice due to COVID-19
- In 2022 we definitely plan to have the postponed TFR course in Ljubljana, Slovenia
- Research grants have also been put on hold due to EUROSPINE's difficult financial situation
- EUROSPINE stands behind the value of research and is reviewing various models for resuming this core activity as soon as possible
- It is our plan to restart our research grant programme as soon as financing is ensured

EUROSPINE has established its new Journal with perfect timing

Brain & Spine

- Joint Journal Cooperation Agreement between EUROSPINE and the European Association of Neurosurgical Societies (EANS) to create a jointly owned and managed journal (presented at GA 2020)
- Brain & Spine is a peer-reviewed open access journal for scientific manuscripts concerned with pathophysiology, diagnostics, prevention, surgical and non-surgical interventions for structural pathological-anatomical alterations of the nervous system and axial skeleton
- Editors-in-Chief: Frank Kandziora and Wilco Peul
- Successfully launched in Spring 2021

EUROSPINE has also advanced in other outreach initiatives

Patient Line

- Website hosted by EUROSPINE to help patients better understand their spine condition and to better communicate with their doctor when making decisions on treatments
- 128% increase in website traffic and 240% increase in new users
- 3 new languages added in 2020 (total 14)

Social Media

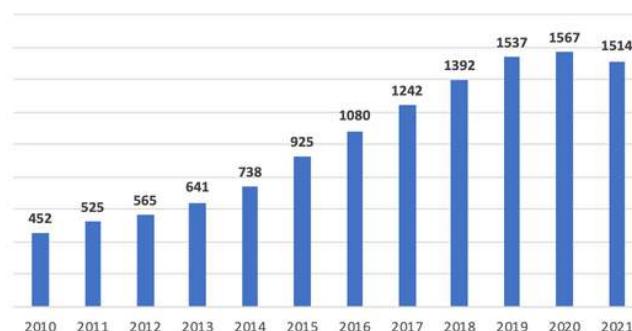
- Substantial increase in engagement
- 21,836 followers on Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn

Membership

EUROSPINE's Membership has seen some consolidated growth during the pandemic

- 118 new members from 35 countries
- Young Members 62%!
- However also more than 150 members expelled in June 2021!

EUROSPINE Membership Growth 2010-2021



Three surveys to learn more about our membership's needs and expectations

1. Who are our members (profession, role): *We are a clinical surgical society!*
2. Attending our Annual Meetings: *277 said they will attend*
3. Why do members not review their membership resp. pay fees (too) late: this is a major concern for EUROSPINE and needs further analysis and action

The Membership Committee has taken – so far - two decisions to improve members' payment behaviours

- Actions taken
 - Reduced expulsion time for unpaid fees from two years to one
 - Reduced 3-year fees to € 125 per year

Membership Plans for 2022

1. Get a better balance with non-surgical membership
2. Identifying the reasons for failure to renew membership
3. Initiatives to retain existing members (a.o. create benefits members want)
4. Implement:
 - loyalty certificates (annual meeting): Bronze (3y), Silver (5y), Gold (10y), Platinum (15y)
 - reduced multiple year payments (125 Euros per year if sign up for 3y)
 - deadline for membership to qualify for reduction at annual meeting = 31st July
 - agreed plans to expel lapsed members (ie. Members not paid after 1 year)

EuSSAB

- The European Spine Societies Advisory Board (EuSSAB) membership is well supported by almost all national societies in Europe
- All members are currently participating in online and onsite meetings
- We would like to see EuSSAB national societies become more proactive in their engagement with EuSSAB and promotion of EUROSPINE activities

Stakeholder Council

The Stakeholder Council has been relatively inactive due to several reasons. In addition to patient line and Spine 20 we want to refocus our efforts with an emphasis on rehabilitation initiatives.

Objective: Establish a place for ALL stakeholders involved in spine care, education, research, quality assurance and promotion beyond the immediate focus of EUROSPINE.

- In line with the WHO initiative: 2030 Rehabilitation
- In collaboration with the SPINE20 initiative
- A better connection (opening) to rehabilitation care providers
- A closer link to patient organisations
- Includes disability prevention initiatives and promoters
- Recognition by UEMS of the Spine specialty in collaboration with our Brain & Spine partners

The Stakeholder Council is currently working on a concrete action plan that will be presented in the coming months.

Members are invited to come up with innovative new ideas.

OUR ORGANISATION

In the wake of COVID-19, we need to reassess costs, improve efficiency, and ensure payment of membership fees

Main objective: keep our organisation structure simple and efficient, reflecting our strategic priorities

- Flat, streamlined organisation with direct reporting lines to council chairs / project owners
- Higher cost efficiency / optimised use of providers
- Best use of government-provided short-term work support

Critical success factors: budget planning and liquidity management

- Fixed costs could not be reduced enough to compensate for loss of income
- Salary costs are too high in terms of current revenues and missing competencies
- Delayed payment of membership fees has become a major concern

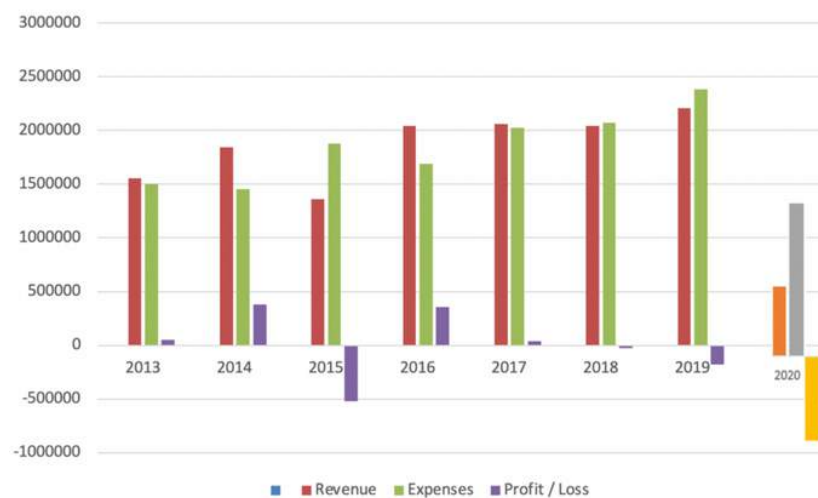
Need for action:

1. Request government support to mitigate negative impact of COVID-19 >successful in May 2021
2. Add needed competencies to staffing (incl. cost adaptations)
3. Ensure that members pay their fees early in the year

4. Society business financials: final figures 2020 / budget 2022

Beat Leimbacher, Delegate / Zdenek Klezl, Treasurer

Overview cost / Income development 2016 - 2020



Overview profit / loss (for details see Annual Report)

	BUDGET 2020	ACTUAL 2020
	01.01.2020 - 31.12.2020	01.01.2020 - 31.12.2020
Total revenue	2'280'000	616'956
Total expenses	2'837'455	1'351'846
Annual profit / loss	-557'455	-734'890

Assets and Liabilities and Equity

Balance sheet as of 31 December (in EUR)

	31 December <u>2020</u>	31 December <u>2019</u>
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	1 088 228	1 376 793
Other current assets	120 973	800 306
Total current assets	1 209 201	2 177 099
TOTAL ASSETS	1 209 201	2 177 099
	31 December <u>2020</u>	31 December <u>2019</u>
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDER'S EQUITY		
Short-term liabilities	430 479	663 487
Total short-term liabilities	430 479	663 487
Total liabilities	430 479	663 487
Society's equity		
Society capital	1 513 612	1 691 112
Profit for the year	(734 890)	(177 500)
Total society's equity	778 722	1 513 612
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SOCIETY'S EQUITY	1 209 201	2 177 099

GA approved the financial statements 2020 as shown above.

Re-Election of the auditors for 2021

TREUHAND
VON FLÜE AG

6302 Zug
Baarerstrasse 95
Telefon 041 726 78 00
Telefax 041 726 78 30
office@vonflue.ch

Report of the statutory auditors
on the limited statutory
examination to the
General Meeting of
**EUROSPINE, the Spine Society of
Europe**
8610 Uster

Zug, July 20, 2021

As statutory auditors, we have examined the financial statements (balance sheet, income statement and notes) of **EUROSPINE, the Spine Society of Europe** for the year ended **December 31, 2020**.

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Based on our limited statutory examination, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements do not comply with Swiss law and the society's articles of incorporation.

We draw to your attention that the financial statements have not been submitted to the Annual General Assembly within six month after year end as stipulated by Art. 699 of the Swiss Code of Obligations.

TREUHAND VON FLÜE AG



H.-P. von Flüe
lic. oec. HSG
licensed audit expert



G. Biotti
auditor in charge
licensed audit expert

Enclosures:

- Financial Statements (balance sheet, income statement and notes)

 EXPERT Suisse Certified Company

Re-Election of the auditors for 2021: - approved

Budget 2022

The budget 2022 has been put together in a very early stage of the actual year. It is therefore a best estimate based on the actual information ExCom has. Changes might occur in the coming months also depending on the further development of the Covid 19 situation.

ExCom aims for a break even result in 2022 – there might be however additional spendings - if it can be afforded based on the final profit of 2021 - for specific high priority projects such as the website which might lead to a negative result (loss around 150-200’)

REVENUE	<u>2022</u>	<u>audited 2020</u>
Memberfees	150 000	167 724
Profit Spring Meeting (PCO)	0	0
Profit Annual Meeting (PCO)	1 000 000	231 125
Education Week	373 000	0
Hybrid Education Week	0	0
EDISC	20 000	0
Education other	0	7 369
Income spine Tango	293 630	203 158
TFR courses	0	0
Spine Centres of Excellence	10 000	7 580
Income Journals	5 000	0
Total Revenue	1 851 630	616 956

EXPENSES	<u>2022</u>	<u>audited 2020</u>
Meetings	15 000	44 068
Education	306 775	8 165
Research	10 000	5 544
Specific Projects/Task Forces	338 500	456 906
Committees	95 000	51 018
Operating expenses	1 045 000	1 017 797
Financial expenses	22 000	33 710
Extraordinary, non-recurring or prior period income	0	(265 362)
Total Expenses	1 832 275	1 351 846
Annual profit / (loss)	19 355	(734 890)

	<u>2022</u>	<u>audited 2020</u>
Total revenue	1 851 630	616 956
Total expenses	1 832 275	1 351 846
Annual profit / loss	19'355	-734'890

Budget 2022: approved as presented above.

Klaus Schnake: asks the question what the impact of the implementation of the new website could be. BL answered that the budget might be in a range of ± €200.000, based on the assessment done 2 years ago. Costs however might now be increased. The Task Force “website is in the process of analysing that right now.

Ciaran Bolger: The biggest cost position in the budget (operating expenses) are salary cost. The question is to what extent external costs can be reduced by hiring own staff doing that work. ExCom is constantly looking at that and actions have been taken to reduce this cost positions. The

future reporting will take care of this question and clearly define external and internal related advisor costs.

5. Information: Organisational issues & future meetings

Joerg Franke, Secretary

Information on next EUROSPINE Annual Meetings: <https://www.eurospinemeeting.org/milan2022>

>> ff

6. Nominations

Tim Pigott, Chair Nomination

The following nominations were supported by the EUROSPINE Executive committee and are now ratified and approved:

Executive Committee:

Ratified:

Thomas Blattert, Germany – Incoming President

Marco Teli, Italy – Incoming Vice President

Lisa Roberts, United Kingdom – Membership Council

new members: Approved

Ahmet Alanay, Turkey – President Elect

Christoph Siepe, Germany – Secretary

Samuel Morris, United Kingdom – Treasurer

Javier Pizones, Spain – Meeting Council

Johan Van Lerbeirghe, Belgium – EuSSAB Council

Rachid Salmi, France – Research Council

Everard Munting, Belgium – Stakeholder Council

ExCom: unanimous, no abstains - ratified and approved

Committee and Task Forces Members:

Education Committee

Tamás Fekete, Switzerland

Baoge Liu, China

Carmen Vleggert-Lankamp, Netherlands

Ilkka Helenius, Finland

Paulo Pereira, Portugal

Yu-Mi Ryang, Germany (prolonged)

Programme Committee

Fabio Galbusera, Italy

Cağlar Yilgör, Turkey

Daniel Haschtmann, Switzerland

Marc Dreimann, Germany

Membership Committee

Laura Scaramuzzo, Italy

Patient Line Committee

Wai Weng Yoon, United Kingdom
Caroline Treanor, Ireland
Susanne Selvadurai, United Kingdom
David Bludovski, Czech Republic

Pre-Day & Lunch Symp Committee: Chair

Ibrahim Obeid, France

Pre-Day & Lunch Symp Committee

Radek Kaiser, Czech Republic
Shahnawaz Haleem, United Kingdom
Ayman Assi, Lebanon

Spine Tango TF

Sabrina Donzelli, Italy

EuSSAB Committee

Nachshon Knoller, Israel

Nomination Committee

Matthias Pumberger, Germany
Martin Gehrchen, Denmark
Alberto Diaz Ulloa, Spain

7. Outlook 2022

Incoming President, Thomas Blattert

Personal Goals President 2021/2022

- 1. Financials:** Ensure further consolidation
- 2. Membership:** Increase attractiveness for existing and future members and encourage payment of fees on time
- 3. Education:** Put a focus on voluntary individual certification complementing our diplomas
- 4. Stakeholders:** Re-establish international relationships beyond Europe in the immediate post-COVID-era
- 5. Social Media:** Continue activities on all our channels to reach out to our spine community all across the globe

7 October 2021

Joerg Franke, EUROSPINE Secretary
Judith Reichert, EUROSPINE Administrative Director

NEW MEMBERS 2021

Family Name	Given Name	City	Country
Aakerstedt	Josefin	Umeå	Sweden
Abdelmaksoud	Ashraf	Frankfurt am Main	Germany
Abohussein	Raed	Gütersloh	Germany
Abouelnaga	Islam	Biel	Switzerland
Abu Nahleh	Kais	Stuttgart	Germany
Adib	Sasan	Tübingen	Germany
Akmal	Mo	London	United Kingdom
Al-bakheet	Anas	Ratingen	Germany
Altayyar	Ahmad	Muenster	Germany
Amato	Marcelo	São Paulo	Brazil
Austevoll	Ivar M	Bergen	Norway
Balasa	Artur	Warsaw	Poland
Banse	Xavier	Brussels	Belgium
Barges Coll	Juan	Lausanne	Switzerland
Baschera	Dominik	Luzern 16	Switzerland
Bauer	Gregor	Feldkirch	Austria
Bjelke	Øyvind	Trondheim	Norway
Bratelj	Denis	Nottwil	Switzerland
Brendel	David	Kassel	Germany
Buchmann	Sandra	Duisburg	Germany
Buizer	Arina	Maastricht	Netherlands
Burger	Lukas	Liestal	Switzerland
Cabezas	Daniel	Rome	Italy
Cirillo	Juan Ignacio	Santiago	Chile
Curfs	Inez	Heerlen	Netherlands
Czapski	Bartosz	Siedlce	Poland
Darwish	Stacey	Dublin	Ireland
de Clercq	Paul	Sainte Clotilde	France
de los Reyes	Nova Kristine	Wiesbaden	Germany
De Salvatore	Sergio	Rome	Italy
Dehghani Nazhvani	Fatemeh	Shiraz	Iran
Derdour	Djamel	Dubai	United Arab Emirates
Diaremes	Panagiotis	Frankfurt am Main	Germany
Dovi-Akué	David	Freiburg	Germany
ENERCAN	Meric	Istanbul	Turkey
Estefan	Martin	Nottingham	United Kingdom
Eyvazov	Kamil	Baku	Azerbaijan
Fuderer	Lena	Innsbruck	Austria
Gaber	Khaled	Leipzig	Germany
Galárraga Campoverde	Raúl	Huelva	Spain
Garg	Bhavuk	New Delhi	India
Geßler	Florian	Rostock	Germany
Ghinguleac	Bogdan	Constanta	Romania
Goodwin	Peter Charles	Manchester	United Kingdom
Häckel	Sonja	Bern	Switzerland
Hamzaoglu	Azmi	Istanbul	Turkey
Hashemian	Farzin	London	United Kingdom
Havakeshian	Sina	Baden	Switzerland
Heaton	Catherine	Wirral	United Kingdom

Family Name	Given Name	City	Country
Husien	Mohammed Ben	Dublin	Ireland
Ignasiak	Dominika	Zurich	Switzerland
Jabbar	Faisal	Karachi	Pakistan
Jakimovski	Dejan	Koblenz	Germany
Jentzsch	Thorsten	Zurich	Switzerland
Joerger	Ann Kathrin	Munich	Germany
Kaitepalli	Raja shekar	Vijayapura	India
Kakadiya	Ghanshyam	Mumbai	India
Karpe	Prasad	Middlesborough	United Kingdom
Kasnik	Vasja	Slovenj Gradec	Slovenia
Katzouraki	Galatea	Nottingham	United Kingdom
Khan	Ayaz	Peshawar	Pakistan
Kim	Dong Hee	Jinju	Korea, Rep. of South
Knoller	Nachshon	Hertzelia	Israel
Kouba	Lukas	Loerrach	Germany
Koura	Mohamed	Cairo	Egypt
Krakowiak	Mateusz	Gdynia	Poland
Kubiak	Andrzej	Bad Neustadt	Germany
Kulkarni	Ameet	Bangalore	India
La Maida	Giovanni Andrea	Milano	Italy
Lam	Samuel	HKSAR	Hong Kong (SAR of China)
Lo	Cho Yau	Sheung Shui	Hong Kong (SAR of China)
Loya	Vijay	Chennai	India
Lucas	Patrice	Le Port Marly	France
Luna Ortiz	Miguel Angel	Santiago	Dominican Republic
Lutchmiah	Caroline	Wirral	United Kingdom
Mameghani	Alexander Tapio	Baden	Switzerland
Martin	Caudron	Nivelles	Belgium
Marx	Stephan	Olten	Switzerland
Masalha	Waseem	Freiburg	Germany
McKay	Lynsey	Wirral	United Kingdom
Meester	Rinse	Leusden	Netherlands
Mehta	Nishank	New Delhi	India
Melloh	Markus	Wellington	New Zealand
Mihaylova	Stiliana	Sofia	Bulgaria
Miranda Barrera	Jorge	mexico	Mexico
Murnaghan	Chloe	Monaghan	Ireland
Navarro Cueva	Gustavo	Bucerias	Mexico
Neophytou	Neophytos	Nicosia	Cyprus
O'Shaughnessy	Julie	Trois-Rivieres	Canada
Padua	Mary Ruth	Manila	Philippines
Pallotta	Maria Ludovica	Milano	Italy
Patino Alvarado	Juan Diego	Barcelona	Spain
Persson	Cecilia	Uppsala	Sweden
Pichkur	Oleksandr	Fulda	Germany
Porche	Ken	Gainesville	United States
Quarto	Emanuele	Genoa	Italy
Reis	João	Nordbyhagen	Norway
Remacle	Thibault	Liège	Belgium

Family Name	Given Name	City	Country
Renwart	Henri-jean	Liege	Belgium
rispoli	rossella	Udine	Italy
Romeo Boullosa	José Luiz	Ribeirão Preto, São Paulo	Brazil
Roos	Niklas	Freiburg	Germany
Rossi-Mossuti	Frédéric	Lausanne	Switzerland
Rusconi	Angelo	Legnano	Italy
Russo	Fabrizio	Rome	Italy
Sarig Bahat	Hilla	Haifa	Israel
Schöller	Karsten	Hamburg	Germany
Schrander	Dirk	Maastricht	Netherlands
Selvadurai	Susanne	Stanmore, Middlesex	United Kingdom
Spicher	Anna	Innsbruck	Austria
Stavila	Iurie	Olsberg	Germany
Sundaram	Rathnam	Gloucester	United Kingdom
Szollosi	Balazs	Budapest	Hungary
Telentschak	Sergej	Cologne	Germany
Thangavelu	Arun	Brig	Switzerland
Tsianaka	Eleni	Kuwait	Kuwait
Umana	Giuseppe Emmanuele	Catania	Italy
vande Kerckhove	Michiel	Ghent	Belgium
Vasilikos	Ioannis	Merzhausen	Germany
Vaz da Silva	Filipe	Porto	Portugal
Veroni	Andrea	Reggio Emilia	Italy
Viezens	Lennart	Hamburg	Germany
Wangler	Sebastian	Bern	Switzerland
Werner	David	Stavanger	Norway
Wolff	Helle	Middelfart	Denmark
Younes	Bilal	Heidelberg	Germany
Zippelius	Timo	Ulm	Germany

COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2021

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Beat Leimbacher, Switzerland	
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Carmen Vleggeert-Lankamp, Netherlands	
Wai Weng Yoon, United Kingdom	

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