



# ANNUAL REPORT 2023

FURTHER ADVANCING PATIENT CARE THROUGH  
EXCELLENCE AND INNOVATIONS

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENTS

Dear Members, Friends, and Colleagues,

In 2023, EUROSPINE celebrated its 25th anniversary with special events during the Annual Meeting. These included a compelling video tunnel showcasing the organisation's history and achievements. Throughout the last year, the organisation focused on strengthening its core activities: meetings, education, research, and quality assurance. EUROSPINE is proud of the progress made in developing its forward strategy and is committed to providing outstanding benefits to its members, course and meeting delegates and stakeholders.

The Annual Meeting had a high-quality scientific and educational programme, with renowned spinal practitioners, national societies, and stakeholders from 85 countries. The meeting keeps evolving and has become an essential event in the global spine care calendar. During Education Week at IRCAD in Strasbourg, we used an increasingly successful blended learning approach that has met the expectations of our Diploma applicants. Our high-quality Spine Tuesday Webinar series provided continuing medical education (CME) and has seen significant growth. We remain fully committed to our EUROSPINE Diploma in Interprofessional Spine Care (EDISC) to educate and empower the widest possible range of spine care practitioners. On the research front, we have redesigned the research curriculum and streamlined our research grant programme to build a stronger and more influential research community. Additionally, our Spine Tango register, the key part of our quality assurance initiative, has become part of an EU Horizon project consortium that aims to develop prediction models for patient-reported and clinical outcomes. Finally, we have introduced electronic patient-reported outcome measures (PROMs) into our register to strengthen the benefits of Spine Tango for an increasing number of participating hospitals and national societies.

During the year, we have made significant progress on the membership front by introducing new appealing benefits to attract new members, particularly those at the early stages of their career and those interested in taking on active officer roles within the Society. Additionally, we have organised our first ever corporate workshop in Naples, Italy for officers to discuss strategic directions and to promote collaboration across councils and committees. This collaborative approach will guide our future endeavours. Our European Spine Society Advisory Board (EuSSAB) has solidified its role as a platform for national societies from 25 member countries, leading to a well-attended EuSSAB session at the Annual Meeting. On the patients' side, we have continued our efforts to empower patients and their families through the provision of easily understandable information. Furthermore, we have made substantial advancements in bolstering our marketing, communication, and digital presence to strengthen our connections with the spinal community and extend our global reach and influence.

All of these achievements would not have been possible without the shared vision of the Executive committee, committee heads, officers and members, as well as our highly motivated staff and their relentless enthusiasm and hard work. We are proud of being part of this strong team and the ongoing process of becoming better every year. We wish to extend a big thank you to our exceptional team, our sponsors and all those who strongly contributed to the great progress EUROSPINE has achieved in the last few years.

Sincerely,

Ahmet Alanay President 2023–2024

Marco Teli President 2022–2023



## EUROSPINE ANNUAL MEETING 2023: ELEVATING THE EXPERIENCE BEYOND - AN EVENT MORE THAN A MEETING

Following the tremendous success of the 2022 Annual Meeting in Milan, which marked a significant milestone as the first post-pandemic gathering without travel restrictions, we were eager to capitalise on this achievement for the 2023 Annual Meeting in Frankfurt, Germany. Taking place from 4 to 6 October 2023, the event was designed to offer an exceptional experience for participants, complemented by top-tier scientific and educational content, and access the latest innovations in industry.

Drawing in 2,154 on-site participants (including pre-day courses) from 85 countries, the event once again featured Mexico as the leading country in terms of delegates. While the total delegate count fell slightly below expectations, it has prompted us to delve deeper into understanding the needs of the community, the regulations impacting surgeons and spine care providers, and the feasibility of engaging with international countries. This insight will be pivotal in not only maintaining, but also increasing delegate numbers for the 2024 flagship event.

### **Our programme committee aims to constantly improve the attractiveness of our Annual Meeting and:**

- Ensure high-quality expert review of submitted abstracts to select the best spine research
- Increase the number and quality of sessions to focus on the best scientific and educational content
- Improve the quality of sessions by redesigning the stage layout and providing special briefing for speakers
- Invite the most knowledgeable keynote speakers, experts and faculty for keynote lectures and engaging 30 minutes sessions
- Introducing "members-only" sessions to provide specific added value to all EUROSPINE members.
- Offering more practical "tips and tricks 30-minutes educational content sessions" on the "White Stage" integrated into the EUROSPINE stand

### **Annual Meeting structure renovations and attractive committee work**

The scientific program for 2023 has been enhanced to showcase top-quality content. Each of the nine thematic sessions, featuring oral presentations, began or ended with a keynote lecture from a renowned speaker in the global spine community. Additionally, we have included more international speakers and added further educational content in engaging, short formats on the White Stage, located in the exhibition area at the EUROSPINE booth.

81 papers were selected for oral presentation on the two main stages. The layout of the main hall stage was further improved to create a more open and inviting space for speakers. We also changed the session structure to group presentations into 3-4 abstracts, followed by a group discussion with the authors, which proved to be more engaging for the audience.

For the debate session on Friday, we chose a topic outside of spine care, and invited two TED speakers from outside the community to discuss the Tech Debate on AI and Open Data.

The members-only "**Breakfast Club**" and "**Campfire**" session formats were well-attended and appreciated by members. The concept of having one or two experts available for in-depth discussions with a small group of delegates was well-received and will be repeated for the 2024 meeting in Vienna.

Having qualified and dedicated candidates for our Programme Committee is essential to maintain the high scientific and educational content of our Annual Meetings. The committee's work continues to evolve by adapting meeting formats and adding educational content to the Annual Meeting programme.

### **Best content, best set-up and diversity to make our meeting an event**

The changes to the programme design, previously implemented in 2022, have continued in 2023 and will be reinforced for 2024.

The programme offered a combination of research and educational content that matched the interests of delegates, and successfully achieved our goal of creating a must-attend event for the European and global spine community.

Looking ahead to 2024, we will continue to work to enhance the delegate experience. Our innovative meeting concept integrates the plenary hall, exhibition, and breakout areas into one space to maximise delegate interaction, comfort, and networking, enabling delegates to move effortlessly between sessions, exhibits, and networking opportunities, in a dynamic environment.

### **EUROSPINE EDUCATION: IMPACTING THE CONTINUOUS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF SPINE CARE PRACTITIONERS IN EUROPE AND BEYOND**

In pursuit of delivering high-quality spine care in line with its values, EUROSPINE is committed to providing accessible education and training to the spine care community. The Education Council remains dedicated to advancing the continuous professional development of spine care practitioners through accessible training and education activities. EUROSPINE education offers the EduWeek, Spine Tuesday webinar series, Basic and Advanced Diploma Courses, and the Diploma Equivalence Programme. The Education Committee ensures the high-quality delivery of these activities by adhering to best practices, continuous professional education, faculty development, and quality assurance through accreditation.

#### **EduWeek 2023**

EUROSPINE Education ran the in-person event format of parallel sessions for the second time in three days, as successfully delivered in 2022. The EduWeek took place at the IRCAD in Strasbourg, France, from 26 to 28 June 2023.

The blended learning approach, which included eLearning modules, case-based discussions, and skills workshops, was effectively delivered to 135 participants from 29 countries around the world. Fifty-two faculty members from 18 countries graciously dedicated their time as online lecturers for the eLearning modules, case presenters, experts, and facilitators in case-based discussions, as well as instructors for the skills workshops. The skills workshops featured educational mainstays such as cadaver specimens, dry bone models, and simulators. Additionally, innovations such as robotics and the introduction of endoscopy in the degenerative spine disorders workshops were incorporated, along with new skills sessions like rod bending and AI-assisted planning for the Revisions and Complications Advanced module.

The compact format consisted of six basic modules (with modules 1 to 5 repeated in two cohorts) and two advanced modules. The EduWeek on-site totalled 13 accredited courses with 72 CME credit hours. Industry partners, including Cerapedics, Globus, Joimax, Medtronic, Nuvasive, RiwoSpine, Spineart, and SpineVision, supported EduWeek 2023. Delegates highly rated EduWeek for its collegial atmosphere and numerous networking opportunities with colleagues, faculty, participants, and industry partners.



This year, with a focus on increasing faculty development and diversification for EduWeek, EUROSPINE issued a membership-wide call for new faculty in September 2023. One-third of the EduWeek faculty in 2024 will consist of these new members, who will teach alongside their seasoned peers.

### **Spine Tuesday webinar series**

The free Spine Tuesday webinar series has witnessed substantial growth and now offers Continuing Medical Education (CME) credits to participants, thereby providing the spine care community with expanded opportunities to fulfill their CME requirements. This advancement ensures the quality of the webinars. The series of 10 editions per year delves into critical topics, addresses current issues, and explores paradigms in spine care. Since its inception in 2020, the series has hosted 32 webinars, attracting 4,438 unique viewers. This expansion represents a significant development for the community, providing an enriched platform for learning and professional advancement.

### **Diploma equivalence**

EUROSPINE offers a Diploma Equivalence Programme that allows national societies to adapt the learning outcomes and formats of the basic diploma course modules. The faculty for these national society programmes are EUROSPINE Diploma holders. Graduates of the national society diploma can obtain the EUROSPINE Diploma, and EUROSPINE Diploma graduates can receive the corresponding National Society diploma. Spine surgeons have the option to attend modules offered by various societies, including EUROSPINE, to complete the diploma programme, ensuring flexibility and access to all necessary modules.

Our ongoing partnerships with the spine societies of Germany, Turkey, France, Greece, Portugal, and Spain, as well as the European Association of Neurosurgical Societies, demonstrate our commitment to collaboration and community. From 2016 to 2023, 934 diplomas have been awarded to spine surgeons through this programme, in addition to the average of 70 diplomas awarded annually to those who complete the modules in the EUROSPINE-delivered EduWeek. This partnership is a crucial part of our mission to provide flexible and accessible training for all spine surgeons.

### **Our efforts towards an European board examination**

On this basis, the EUROSPINE Task Force Spine Diploma is currently drafting the European Training Requirements in Spine Surgery. These requirements are based on the learning outcomes of the basic diploma course module. The Task Force aims to advance the interests of the spine surgery specialty in Europe. EUROSPINE will contribute to this effort by establishing medical standards and promoting the alignment of European Board Examinations. Collaboration with the EANS (European Association of Neurosurgical Societies), EBOT (European Board of Orthopaedics and Traumatology), and the UEMS (Union Européenne des Médecins Spécialistes) will be essential. The Task Force is also currently developing a European board examination alongside the European Training Requirements in Spine Surgery.

### **Additional highlights**

EUROSPINE has resumed its observership programme and is planning future growth. For Edweek 2024, which will once again be held at IRCAD, we will introduce a new stand-alone course on endoscopy and a reformatted research course. These additions will significantly enhance the educational experience, offering participants the best possible education in a streamlined format.

## **EUROSPINE EDISC: OUR DIPLOMA IN INTERPROFESSIONAL SPINE CARE CONTINUOUSLY STRENGTHENING THE WORLDWIDE SPINE CARE WORKFORCE**

### **Our ambition**

The EUROSPINE Diploma in Interprofessional Spine Care (EDISC) aims to educate and empower spine care professionals of all specialties. The programme is open to both surgical and non-surgical clinicians involved in spine care, such as primary care physicians, surgeons, physiotherapists, chiropractors, osteopaths, occupational therapists, clinical psychologists, nursing practitioners, naprapaths, and other clinicians who have graduated from a recognised institution (i.e. professional school or university). While it is recommended to have at least two years of clinical experience to participate, new graduates are also encouraged to register.

### **Cohort 3 of all virtual EDISC**

The 2023 cohort has successfully completed the all-virtual EDISC programme, marking the 3rd cohort of its kind. The programme consisted of seven modules and had an average of 30 participants, with 14 of them receiving bursaries. This cohort was quite diverse, with participants from 20 different countries, including Armenia, Bahamas, Denmark, Egypt, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Ireland, Italy, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Switzerland, Tunisia, United Kingdom, and Zimbabwe, creating a truly global community.

The cohort included participants from both surgical and nonsurgical professions in balanced proportions, facilitating interprofessional learning and exchange. The programme received positive feedback from participants, scoring an average of more than 8 out of 10 points. Participants evaluated the modules' quality, relevance, scientific validity, suitability of formats, and impact on their clinical practice. Additionally, the seven modules received accreditation from EACCME® (European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education).

After three successful cohorts, the EDISC committee will undertake a curriculum and quality review in 2024. EUROSPINE remains committed to support spine care professionals from low to middle-income countries as the bursary programme will continue for the 2024 cohort, ensuring that education remains accessible to all interested parties.

### **EUROSPINE continues its work in developing the workforce as a member of the World Rehabilitation Alliance**

EUROSPINE is actively involved in the World Rehabilitation Alliance (WRA) of the World Health Organisation. The organisation collaborates with various members, including member states, intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations, the private sector, philanthropic foundations, and academic institutions, to address the integrated approach to spine care. Rehabilitation is crucial in enhancing the functioning of individuals, especially those with prevalent spine conditions and accompanying disabilities. EUROSPINE is well-positioned to contribute to the WRA's efforts in developing the rehabilitation workforce through future cohorts of EDISC.

The EDISC committee is dedicated to advocating for access to evidence-based spine rehabilitation and ensuring its delivery. We will continue to work with governing bodies, national and international organisations such as World Health Organisation and Spine20, funding organisations, field workers, and patient organisations. Our goal is to offer affordable interprofessional education that encourages collaborative care using evidence-based best practices to enhance patient outcomes. The online delivery and bursary programme provided by EDISC will make education accessible to participants from all over the world – especially those from low to middle-income countries.

## EUROSPINE RESEARCH: PROMOTING RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP OF THE SPINE CARE COMMUNITY

### Introduction

With the course and the grants programme, the Research Council facilitates research and scholarship, promoting impactful research in the field of spinal care and encouraging more practitioners to contribute to the collective evidence of the specialty. The spine care community is making significant strides in increasing its research capacity. This progress is driven by opportunities to enhance research skills and access funding for research projects. In 2023, the research council prioritised redesigning the research curriculum and streamlining the research grant programme, increasing its reach and significance in the research community.

### Redesign of the Research Course

During EduWeek 2023, the Research Council conducted a needs assessment for a new research course. The goal was to restructure the course to better meet the needs of our community. Out of 101 respondents, 77 showed interest in participating in a research course. Based on the results of the needs assessment and comparisons with similar offerings in other fields, the Research Council members redesigned the course. They refined and adjusted the research course to incorporate a blended learning approach that aligns with our community's needs. This new format and blended learning approach were built on the success of the original research course over the past ten years. The redesigned research course, a symbol of our dedication and flexibility, is set to be piloted at EduWeek 2024.

### Our new grant approach

New grant agreements and revised guidelines were established in 2022, to evaluate and monitor the programme moving forward. Clear reporting procedures have been established with the goal to engage also external potential funders. EUROSPINE awarded four grants of 15,000 Euros each in 2023. The plan is to further grow the grant activities by highlighting the success of previous EUROSPINE grant sponsored projects to gain external funding. Moreover, connectivity between research grant proposals designed during the research course and the awarded grants will be propagated to serve as a stimulus for both participants and sponsoring industry.





## EUROSPINE SPINE TANGO: SIGNIFICANT MILESTONES ACHIEVED AND CONSTANT INNOVATIONS ALSO PLANNED IN 2024

### EUROSPINE'S introduction of electronic PROMs

In 2023, we conducted a successful pilot of electronic PROMs (ePROMs) in Switzerland and subsequently integrated them into Spine Tango. The pilot, conducted in 13 hospitals, revealed that over half of the patients spontaneously responded to ePROMs sent via email or mobile phone. Future updates will include more languages and QR codes with the goal of achieving response rates of 80% or more. ePROMs are enhancing our comprehension of treatment efficacy and patient experiences. In 2024 we will enhance the ePROM functionality by adding Czech and Portuguese language support and introducing QR code generation, to support hospital staff in helping patients filling their questionnaire when needed. In addition, the ePROM status overview will be enhanced with additional action buttons.

### Improving reporting, collaboration, and resources in 2023

We have introduced quarterly benchmark reports accessible on personal dashboards, allowing users to easily analyse trends and make well-informed decisions. Our close partnership with implant manufacturers is primarily focused on delivering performance and outcomes reports, leading to significant advances in spine technology.

### Increased accessibility

The expansion of platform translations ensures the global accessibility of Spine Tango and fosters collaboration among spine care professionals. The upcoming Czech version, developed in collaboration with Krajská nemocnice Liberec, underlines our commitment to inclusivity. We are strongly interested and best positioned to further strengthen the links with other national societies and all national societies that partner with us on the EuSSAB platform. This is a unique service offering that we can also offer to individual hospitals, free of charge.

### International Spine Registry (ISR) working group

Spine Tango and EUROSPINE also hosted the 2nd meeting of the ISR Working Group during the EUROSPINE Annual Meeting in Frankfurt. This group consists of all major international spine registries and is striving to establish a minimal core dataset to facilitate data integration across platforms, create recommendations for common PROMs, and agree on standardised methods for registering implant data. The working group has committed to publishing a policy paper in 2024 on each of these three topics. In 2024, we will host the third ISR meeting during the EUROSPINE Annual Meeting in Vienna. Additionally, we plan to publish a policy paper on each of the following three topics: a minimal core dataset for spine registries, common PROMs, and guidelines for registering spinal implants.

### Further strong improvements planned for 2024 and beyond

- **New online ad-hoc statistics and reporting feature:** The integration of Power BI technology in 2024 enables users to create their own online data analysis and reporting queries. Users can copy or export results, comparisons, tables and images for use beyond the platform.
- **Linked forms export:** We're introducing a new data export format that links all available patient- and clinician-reported forms for a single clinical case, simplifying data analysis and interpretation.
- **Revised data structure (from 2025):** We will be revising the data structure of the 2017 surgery form to simplify it, while ensuring it captures key trends in diagnosis, treatment and assessment.

This will include the introduction of a minimal version of the form with a reduced but still appropriate amount of data. The aim is to refine and streamline the data collection process and make it more user-friendly for hospitals. The new data structure is expected to start in 2025.

- **Access to international data for non-participants:** The Spine Tango Steering Committee has agreed to allow access to international data for non-participants from 2024, with preparations already underway.

These endeavors, with the support of participating hospitals and EUROSPINE, are propelling innovation and enhancing patient outcomes in the field of spine care. We express our gratitude to our partners as we celebrate these accomplishments.

As we embark on these improvements, we sincerely thank you for your continued use of the Registry. We are confident that the innovations planned for 2024 will not only meet, but exceed your expectations, promoting a more streamlined, effective, and user-friendly experience for all participants.

### **Spine Tango participating in the EU HORIZON “Prepare Project”: Transforming rehabilitation care**

Our organisation has recently become a member of the four-year EU HORIZON programme consortium, which aims to leverage AI to develop prediction models for patient-reported and clinical outcomes in order to enhance patient rehabilitation on a broader scale. This is a tremendous achievement, recognising our efforts in strengthening the perception of our Spine Tango related register activities.

The PREPARE project, which stands for Personalised Rehabilitation via Novel AI Patient Stratification Strategies, represents a groundbreaking initiative aimed at revolutionising the way rehabilitation care is provided for people with chronic musculoskeletal conditions, with a particular focus on spinal disorders and scoliosis. This pioneering interdisciplinary effort uses state-of-the-art data and AI techniques to tailor treatment strategies to each individual's unique needs.

Within this consortium, EUROSPINE plays a pivotal role in refining the PREPARE models, drawing upon its specialised knowledge in spinal disorders and the invaluable resources of the Spine Tango Registry—a comprehensive repository of anonymised medical data. By integrating EUROSPINE's wealth of data, the project aims to elevate the precision of treatment options, set realistic patient expectations, and ultimately enhance overall patient outcomes.

The PREPARE project serves as a prime example of a collaborative endeavor fueled by stakeholders who share a common dedication to advancing rehabilitation care. Their collective commitment is rooted in the principal goal of enhancing patient experience and elevating the quality of life for patients.



## EUROSPINE'S MEMBERS: OUR INVESTMENT IN THE FUTURE OF SPINE CARE BY FURTHER FOCUSING ON THE NEEDS OF OUR MEMBERS

The Membership Council is tasked with the supervision and administration of matters related to membership. Its primary function involves the recruitment of new members, the retention of existing members, and ensuring that the organisation's membership programme is in line with its goals and objectives. In 2023 the council launched several "fresh and innovative" initiatives to achieve the following objectives, to:

- Revolutionise our membership strategy by further prioritising our members needs and initiating a special focus on the next generation of spine care professionals and leaders
- Identify, develop and implement opportunities to broaden membership categories and establish new membership benefits or services based on the constantly evolving needs and interests of members.

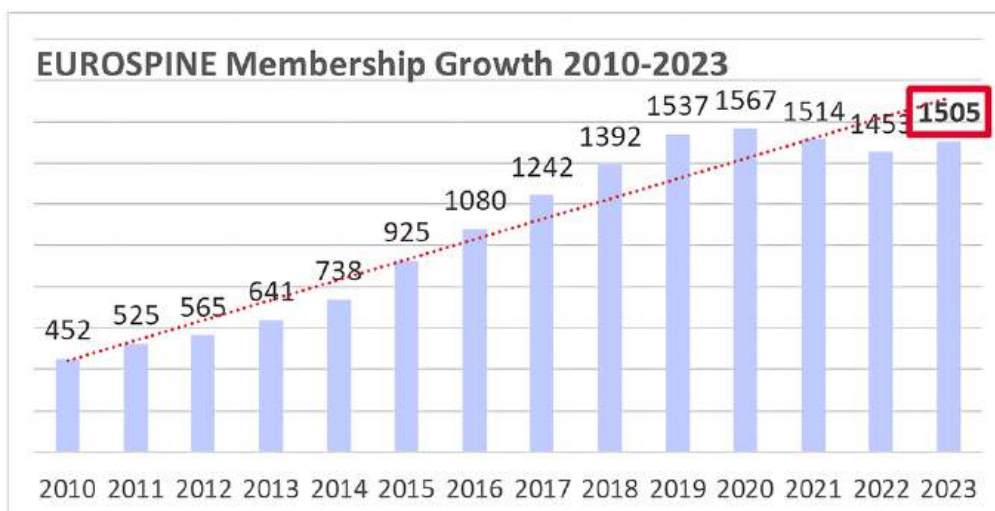
### Slightly growing membership base: A high percentage of young career members joining

We are delighted to welcome 298 new members from 60 different countries with nearly fifty percent falling under the early career category. Recognising the unique needs of these members, EUROSPINE is actively working on developing tailored benefits for this group (defined as within 5 years of professional registration), including a mentoring programme, leadership programme, and a task force to address their specific requirements.

The growth of EUROSPINE is attributed to its dedicated members, who have enabled the association to offer an array of impressive benefits. These encompass multidisciplinary educational opportunities, complimentary access to the Spine Tango registry, a waiver of publication fees in the esteemed journal Brain & Spine, eLearning resources, networking events, and engaging scientific meetings. Notably, attendance at these educational events continues to rise, reflecting their high value. The annual meeting EUROSPINE 2023 in Frankfurt was particularly successful, receiving positive feedback and a slight increase in attendance from members.

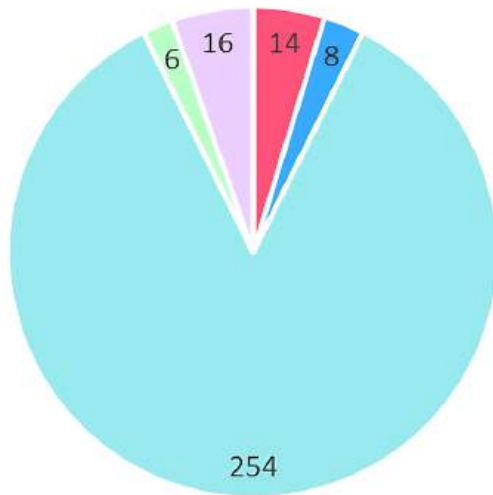
We greatly appreciate the ongoing support and dedication shown by numerous EUROSPINE members who consistently fulfill their membership obligations. While it is regrettable that we have had to suspend memberships for individuals who have not submitted their dues for an extended period, our efforts to encourage membership retention have been successful and have contributed to an overall increase in our membership base.

### Membership Status as of 31.12.2023



### Number of new members per profession

■ Clinical (Non-medical) ■ Clinical (Physician) ■ Clinical (Surgical) ■ Other ■ Unkown



### Top 20 countries of EUROSPINE membership

Country	Number of Members
Germany	224
Switzerland	174
United Kingdom	125
Italy	68
Netherlands	61
Belgium	49
Spain	49
France	48
Turkey	45
Austria	38
Greece	32
Mexico	32
Portugal	29
Denmark	25
United States	24
Norway	23
Brazil	22
Ireland	22
Sweden	22
India	19

### High ambitions for 2024

As we look towards the future, we are filled with optimism about the potential of our society. Our ongoing efforts to attract outstanding professionals across the spine pathway and establish a strong network of healthcare experts, all committed to enhancing patient care, fill us with excitement. We eagerly anticipate the inclusion of new members into our global society and foresee sustained growth, standing alongside you. We will evolve and strengthen our EUROSPINE community, becoming more attractive for all our members with a particular focus on the early career members. Together, we are EUROSPINE!





## EUROPEAN SPINE SOCIETIES ADVISORY BOARD (EUSSAB)

EUROSPINE's European Spine Societies Advisory Board (EuSSAB) serves as an inclusive platform for all institutional members. It aims to establish shared objectives, recognise existing challenges, and formulate effective strategies to address these challenges in a manner that benefits all parties involved.

Currently, EuSSAB has 25 member countries, each represented by 28 spine societies that have been accepted as institutional members after applying thorough application process and agreed to adhere to the established cooperation guidelines. Moreover, our Committee functions as a Council Group, ensuring representation on EUROSPINE's Executive Committee.

One of our key achievements has been the closer engagement of national spine societies through regular virtual calls and dedicated sessions at the Annual Meeting. This approach enables all representatives of the national spine societies to actively participate in these activities, ensuring they are well-informed and up-to-date with the latest EUROSPINE developments.

### **EuSSAB's latest achievements**

For the fourth time, the EuSSAB Committee organised a EuSSAB session during the Annual Meeting in Frankfurt. This year, the session was seamlessly integrated into the main programme for the first time. It began with the interactive Best Papers Competition, followed by a meet-and-greet cocktail reception. The session format received commendation during the paper submission stage, resulting in the acceptance of 12 papers by the National Societies. The session at the Frankfurt meeting saw exceptional attendance and consistently positive feedback, thanks to the high scientific quality of the presented papers, which were judged the best by the National Societies. This session added significant scientific value to the EUROSPINE Annual Meeting and is scheduled to be part of the main programme in one of the primary meeting rooms in 2024.

### **Future goals**

In 2023, it was decided to discontinue additional face-to-face meetings and instead use the Annual Meeting in Frankfurt as a common meeting point. The internal meeting of national representatives in Frankfurt, hosted by EuSSAB, garnered considerable attendance and was characterised by robust, enriching discussions. During this forum, the current President outlined the following key objectives for the future of EuSSAB:

- Further development of the award-winning National Spine Society lecture
- Establishing working rules for cooperation between national representatives and the EuSSAB Committee
- Supporting other EUROSPINE-initiated programmes such as THEMIS, Spine Tango, and Brain & Spine Journal.
- Publication of two newsletters per year
- Organising two open update calls per year for all national representatives

Notably, EuSSAB perpetuates its open role as an accessible platform for EUROSPINE, as well as the institutional and associate members of EuSSAB. Moreover, it offers support to all Task Forces and Committees, including Spine Tango, Brain and Spine Journal, SSCoE, Membership, EduCom, and Programme Committees, thereby serving as an indispensable liaison between all Societies and Committees.

### **Urgent change needed: we must get more proactive involvement from EuSSAB Members**

The need for increased proactive involvement from EuSSAB members is evident in order to advance EUROSPINE's initiatives. EuSSAB offers valuable programmes, however, communication within



national spine societies requires improvement. There are challenges related to information sharing and unclear collaborative guidelines, further complicated by the frequent change of representatives within the national societies.

The proactive engagement demonstrated by the members of the National Committees is essential in addressing the issues within the spine community. It is crucial for all National Societies to take full advantage of the benefits provided, including access to the registry and EUROSPINE activities, as well as the opportunity to raise and receive support for national issues. These matters will be further deliberated in upcoming meetings to ensure swift progress, as the EuSSAB Council aims to serve as a unifying platform for all spine society members.



## REHABILITATION IN EUROSPINE – PREVENTION OF SPINE-RELATED DISABILITY, EXCELLENCE IN SPINE CARE, AND THE REHABILITATION OF PATIENTS WITH SPINAL DISORDERS

### Introduction

EUROSPINE is an interprofessional society representing spine care professionals. It provides a platform to stimulate the exchange of knowledge and ideas in the research, prevention, and treatment of spine diseases and related conditions. EUROSPINE coordinates efforts across European countries and beyond to promote preventive measures for spine-related disabilities, excellence in spine care, and the rehabilitation of patients with spinal disorders. The society is deeply engaged in the exchange of spine-related knowledge across disciplines, professions, cultures, and countries through various initiatives, including rehabilitation webinars in the Spine Tuesday and EDISC programmes, patient education through the Patient Line, advocacy with active involvement in Spine20 and the World Health Organisation's World Rehabilitation Alliance, and quality assurance through Spine Tango and the Spine Centres of Excellence.

### List of achievements

- **Spine Tuesday rehabilitation webinars** – In 2023, 3 rehabilitation webinars were run during the Spine Tuesday webinar series where spine care professionals from different disciplines and fields engaged. In January 2023, the rehabilitation of adolescent idiopathic scoliosis gathered 241 participants. In April 2023, the webinar on evidence-based diagnosis and rehabilitation of cervical radiculopathy had 206 participants. In October 2023, 81 participated in the webinar on evidence-based diagnosis and management of cauda equina syndrome.
- **EDISC bursary programme** – The 2023 EDISC cohort included 14 bursars from 10 countries: Armenia, Egypt, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tunisia, and Zimbabwe. EUROSPINE aims to give access to the EDISC's specialised interprofessional education programme, especially to those from lower-resourced settings.
- **Patient Line** – EUROSPINE continues with this website containing peer-reviewed content where patients can find the most frequent therapies for various spinal conditions.
- **Spine20 education workshop** – On 16 June 2023, EUROSPINE, in collaboration with the Spine20 Education Committee, organised a virtual education workshop aimed at sharing best practices to improve clinical decision-making. Spine care stakeholder groups were invited to engage in a debate on spine curricula, with 40 participants attending online. Four invited speakers presented topics that set the stage for breakout session discussions and debates.
  - Dominique Rothenfluh, Switzerland, EUROSPINE President Elect: Changing the mindset – need for standardised spine education
  - Emre Acaroglu, Turkey, past AO Spine Education Commission Chair: Challenges in implementing a global curriculum
  - Jamiu Busari, Aruba, Associate Professor of Medical Education, University of Maastricht: Interprofessional spine care - the merits and hurdles
  - Justin Barad, USA, Founder/CEOOSSOVR: The opportunities for simulation in spine education -VR case example
- **Spine20 annual summit** – Spine20 is an evidence-based advocacy group dedicated to raising global awareness of spine disorders. This group was established in 2019 through the collaboration of EUROSPINE, NASS, DWG and the Saudi Spine Society. Thirty-two national and international societies support this. They have annual meetings to develop evidence-based policy recommendations for G20 governments. The annual meeting was held in New Delhi, India, 10 to 11 August 2023 with the theme: "One Earth, One Family, One Future WITHOUT Spine DISABILITY". EUROSPINE had a very influential presence with Thomas Blatter opening the summit, Lisa Roberts, Jörg Franke and Pierre Côte led three sessions. Marco Campello, Paulo Pereira, Frank Kandziora, Jamiu Busari and Marco Teli represented EUROSPINE as speakers. The summit was attended by a wide range of healthcare providers, leading to fruitful discussions

between spine surgeons, spine rehabilitation specialists and patient advocacy groups. In this meeting, the Spine20 called on the G20 governments to establish, prioritise, and implement national spine care programmes to improve spine care and health outcomes.

- **World Health Organisation relations and the World Rehabilitation Alliance** – Since early 2023, EUROSPINE has been a member of the World Health Rehabilitation Alliance. Represented by Everard Munting and Julie-Lyn Noël, EUROSPINE is actively contributing to the workforce workstream. The objectives of this workstream are to: (1) communicate the multidisciplinary nature of the rehabilitation workforce and highlight their valuable contribution to optimal health outcomes; (2) drive investment in quality rehabilitation education and training; and (3) expand the integration of the rehabilitation workforce into all levels of care and practice settings. Through its participation, EUROSPINE is positioned to influence the global spine care agenda.
- **Quality assurance programmes** – EUROSPINE offers initiatives such as the ‘Spine Tango Registry’, which includes surgical and conservative treatment assessment and follow-up through patient-reported outcome measures (PROMs). EUROSPINE also offers an independent accreditation process for institutions and departments in the Spine Centres of Excellence (SSCoE). By the end of 2023, the SSCoE programme had accredited about 40 centres.

### **Additional highlights/plans for 2024**

In 2024, work will continue with three rehabilitation webinars for the Spine Tuesdays, the EDISC bursary programme, Patient Line, and the quality assurance programmes. Spine20 will be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 9 to 10 August 2024. Active engagement with the World Health Organisation’s World Rehabilitation Alliance is planned with advocacy activities.

### **Conclusion**

EUROSPINE will continue to invest in rehabilitation activities that have already been incorporated into its long-standing activities. These activities are crucial as we seek to promote evidence-based interprofessional care for spine clinicians and policymakers.

### **EUROSPINE PATIENT LINE: EMPOWERING PATIENTS WITH KNOWLEDGE**

The Patient Line sub-committee, which operates as an integral part of EUROSPINE, is firmly committed to providing comprehensive education to patients regarding a wide range of spinal conditions, preventive care strategies, and available treatments. This essential initiative aims to continuously enhance patient knowledge, involvement, and empowerment through a variety of proactive educational and engagement programmes. In 2023, Patient Line concentrated on key areas to advance its mission:

#### **Content population and creating new content for the new website**

The primary objective was to develop content for the new Patient Line website in both English and German, ensuring that the material adhered to standards of Search Engine Optimisation (SEO), readability, and linguistic accuracy. The focus is and will remain the specialising in the creation of compelling and easily understandable information for patients and their families. This involves simplifying the content from Spine Tuesday webinars and devising strategies for presenting patient experiences, treatment choices, and advice on preventive care.

#### **Symposium: “Crossing the Information Gap: What are patients really thinking?” at EUROSPINE 2023**

The primary objective of the symposium was to gain insights into the patients online search behaviour. Therefore the Patient Line Committee focused on the following key issues:



- Analysis of prevalent search trends across various age demographics
- Evaluation of social media content pertaining to spinal health
- Examination of popular non-surgical treatment modalities
- Identification of primary sources of information on spine surgery
- Review of online purchase patterns for back-care products

### Outlook 2024: Patient webinars and goals for the future

- **Launch two webinars for patients:** Scoliosis Awareness Month (June): Raising awareness about scoliosis, discussing implications, and exploring treatment options and a World Spine Day Webinar: Educating patients on maintaining spinal health and preventing spine-related issues.
- **Further goals for 2024:** finalise migration and ensuring that website is fully operation in multiple languages and implement patient line stories and latest articles providing real life insights and information about latest advancements in spinal health

Patient Line remains steadfast in its commitment to equipping patients with knowledge and fostering their engagement. Through ongoing enhancements to resources and support systems for individuals affected by spinal conditions, EUROSPINE seeks to make a substantial impact on patient care and awareness in spinal health.



## BRAIN AND SPINE: MILESTONE ACHIEVED

On 10 April 2021, EUROSPINE, EANS, and Elsevier signed a contract to establish Brain and Spine, a new online, open-access scientific journal. It is the official journal of EUROSPINE and EANS exclusively owned (50 /50) by the two scientific societies.

After a strong start (please refer to last year's Annual Report), 2023 was also a very successful year for Brain and Spine. On 11 April, Brain and Spine was indexed in Scopus, an important abstract and citation database run by Elsevier. This was followed by indexation in the Web of Science, managed by Clarivate, on 26 July, and finally, on 28 July, Brain and Spine was included in the Emerging Sources Citation Index. These indexations reflect the high quality of the journal and the excellent work of our Editorial Board. We are extremely proud of this swift recognition, as being listed in these indexes is essential for obtaining an Impact Factor in the near future.

To build on the significant momentum already achieved, the EUROSPINE and EANS Executive Committees decided to support the journal financially by waiving all article processing fees for EUROSPINE and EANS members, starting from 18 April 2023 until Brain and Spine receives an Impact Factor. Based on current developments, we expect to receive an Impact Factor by mid-2024.

Our Reviewer of the Year Award was once again assigned in 2023. We firmly believe that reviewers are extremely important for a high-class scientific journal; hence, we will continue to award our best reviewer on a yearly basis. "Reviewers of the (academic) Year" 2022/2023 were Stavros Stavridis from Thessaloniki, Greece for EUROSPINE and Sandro Krieg from Munich, Germany for EANS (1).

After establishing our concept of Special Topic Issues (STI) in 2022, we started two STI's in 2023 about "Brain Trauma" and "Thoracolumbar Spine Trauma" which will be finished early in 2024. If you ask yourself why you should publish in a special topic issue of Brain and Spine, please have a look at our editorial (2). Further, we published the proceedings of the XVIII International Symposium on Intracranial Pressure and Brain Monitoring (ICP) and produced two supplements including the annual meeting abstracts of EUROSPINE and EANS.

In 2023, Brain and Spine once again increased the number of submissions, receiving 303 scientific papers, with 216 of them submitted by European authors. Authors from the United Kingdom, Germany, and Italy currently submit the most papers. The median editorial speed—from submission to first decision—is 40 days, and the publication speed—from submission to publication—is 78 days. These figures reflect the excellent work of our reviewers, authors, and the editorial team at Elsevier.

Although the journal has had a very successful start, it is crucial that we secure the ongoing support of our entire EUROSPINE and EANS community. Only with the full backing of our membership can we ensure the future of our high-quality scientific journal, Brain and Spine. We encourage you to consider submitting your excellent scientific papers to our journal. If you have any questions or wish to become involved with Brain and Spine, perhaps as an editorial board member or a reviewer, please do not hesitate to contact us. Explore the Brain and Spine Journal—visit our website, follow us on social media, or get in touch directly at [bas@elsevier.com](mailto:bas@elsevier.com).

(1) Frank Kandziora, Wilco Peul, Why you should publish in a special topic issue of the Brain and Spine Journal, Brain and Spine, Volume 3, 2023, 101784, ISSN 2772-5294, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bas.2023.101784>.

(2) Frank Kandziora, Wilco Peul, The "Reviewer of the Year" award 2022/2023, Brain and Spine, Volume 3, 2023, 101789, ISSN 2772-5294, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bas.2023.101789>.





## TREASURER'S STATEMENT: THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2023 RESULTED IN A SOLID PROFIT BASED ON 4 DIFFERENT INCOME SOURCES AND STABLE COST POSITIONS

The treasurer statement covers the 2023 financial year. The detailed figures are available for “members only” in the member section of the EUROSPINE website.

As known, our financial strategy over the years as a Non-Profit organisation is to achieve a break-even result. This strategy relies on the policy that our equity position is strong enough to survive at least one bad year. The pandemic however had a negative impact on two financial years with a tremendous loss in 2020 and only weak recovery in 2021. Therefore, it is now our major goal to recover our equity position, bringing it to the pre-pandemic level.

The 2023 financial year was the second full recovery year after the pandemic, and has altogether been another important step towards this recovery of our equity position. The total profit, although slightly below last year, was better than forecast. The strongest revenue contribution came again from the Annual Meeting, but also revenues from our education programmes and Spine Tango remained stable, and the membership income has further stabilised. The Annual Meeting remains the strongest profit contributor and we constantly aim for further diversification of our income sources. Our costs have been managed carefully, keeping our biggest cost (personnel expenses) almost stable, compared to last year. The slight increase of our total costs have - among others - also been impacted by the re-installment of our research grant programme, which is and will remain an important part of our core activities.

Looking into 2024 we stay committed to achieve again the budgeted break-even result, even though the “environment” gets tougher as there are too many meetings and educational activities offered, while financial budgets of hospitals and the time needed by potential participants to attend these offerings are more limited. This is why we focus on our two flagship events – the EUROSPINE Annual Meeting and the Education Week – and aim to make them “must attend events” in the spine world. Furthermore we will strengthen the relationships with our key stakeholders by creating strong benefits and collaborations.

Our Executive committee and presidential line remain fully committed to our mission and vision and we are proud and thankful to all our officers and staff as well as our stakeholders and industry partners who strongly support EUROSPINE not only financially but also with many good advises and strong personal support.

## ADVANCING MARKETING, COMMUNICATION, AND DIGITAL EFFORTS

In 2023, EUROSPINE not only strengthened its core activities but made also substantial advancements in bolstering its marketing, communication, and digital presence to strengthen its connections with the spinal community and extend its global outreach.

### **New website**

A pivotal achievement in 2023 was the successful launch of EUROSPINE's new website, a comprehensive project made possible by the dedication of EUROSPINE staff. This user-friendly platform consolidates three separate websites, furnishing valuable resources for healthcare professionals and patients, thereby solidifying EUROSPINE's position as a premier authority in spine care. The immense efforts of the staff, who took on this project in addition to their regular duties, were crucial in making this launch successful.

### **25th anniversary celebrations at Annual Meeting**

EUROSPINE commemorated its 25th anniversary at the Annual Meeting with special events, including a compelling video tunnel highlighting the organisation's history and achievements, and the ESF Charity Run featuring specially designed running shirts, and gifts that were distributed to members and speakers at the booth.

### **Social media growth**

EUROSPINE's social media platforms saw robust growth, enhancing our engagement and knowledge-sharing capabilities. Our reach across Facebook, X (formerly Twitter), LinkedIn, and Instagram increased by 12%, adding 3.5k new followers. LinkedIn, in particular, once again, proved to be key platform for our community. Overall, our posts reached 695,000 people, and we garnered 2.3 million post and page impressions.

### **Updated corporate design**

In 2023, EUROSPINE underwent a corporate design overhaul to embody a modern and polished aesthetic. The new design showcases a monochromatic logo that can be presented in white on EUROSPINE blue or vice versa, allowing for adaptability and a contemporary appearance. To commemorate EUROSPINE's 25th anniversary, a distinctive logo was created using high-contrast colours to improve visibility and readability across different platforms. The anniversary emblem, adorned with vibrant gradients, serves as a representation of celebration, diversity, and innovation.

### **Our Annual Report summarises our success story**

The EUROSPINE Annual Report 2023 highlights significant progress and advancements in marketing strategies, communication methods, and digital initiatives. These accomplishments reflect the dedication and hard work of all EUROSPINE officers and staff members. The report underscores EUROSPINE's commitment to fostering collaboration and sharing knowledge within the global spine care community.

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

Zug, August 12, 2024

As statutory auditor, 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, 2023.

These financial statements are the responsibility of the Committee. 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 articles of association.

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 GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2023 | MINUTES

The minutes from the General Assembly are exclusively accessible to members in the dedicated member section of the EUROSPINE website.



## COMMITTEE & TASK FORCE MEMBERS 2023

### Executive Committee

Marco Teli, Italy – President  
 Ahmet Alanay, Turkey – Vice President  
 Dominique A. Rothenfluh, Switzerland – President-elect  
 Christoph Siepe, Germany – Secretary  
 Yann-Philippe Charles, France – Treasurer  
 Paulo Pereira, Portugal – Education Council  
 Johan Van Lerbeirghe, Belgium – EuSSAB Council  
 Javier Pizones, Spain – Meeting Council  
 Lisa Roberts, United Kingdom – Membership Council  
 Carmen Vleggeert-Lankamp, Netherlands – Research Council  
 Everard Munting, Belgium – Stakeholder Council

### Education Committee

Paulo Pereira, Portugal – Chair  
 Dominique A. Rothenfluh, Switzerland – Past Chair  
 Tamas Fekete, Switzerland – Member  
 Baoge Liu, China – Member  
 Carmen Vleggeert-Lankamp, the Netherlands – Member  
 Ilkka Helenius, Finland – Member  
 Paulo Countinho, Portugal – Member  
 Stacey Darwish, United Kingdom – Member  
 Bertrand Debono, France – Member  
 Maximo Alberto Diaz Ulloa, Spain – Member  
 Jean Charles Le Huec, France – Member  
 Florian Ringel, Germany – Member  
 Chrishan Thakar, United Kingdom – Member

### EuSSAB Committee

Johan Van Lerbeirghe, Belgium – Chair  
 John McCabe, Ireland – EuSSAB Representative  
 Andrea Luca, Italy – EuSSAB Vice-Representative  
 Jarkko Halme, Finland – Chair Elect  
 Naffis Arwanjalla, United Kingdom – Member  
 Nachson Knoller, Israel – Member

### Membership Committee

Lisa Roberts, United Kingdom – Chair  
 Stéphane Genevay, Switzerland – Member  
 Matti Scholz, Germany – Member  
 Laura Scaramuzzo, Italy – Member  
 Karsten Wiechert, Germany – Member

### Patient Line Committee

Derek Cawley, Ireland – Chair  
 Wai Wenig Yoon, United Kingdom – Member  
 Triantafyllos Bouras, Belgium – Member  
 Peter Ferlic, Austria – Member  
 David Bludovski, Czech Republic – Member  
 Angelo Fragakis, United Kingdom – Member  
 Susanne Selvadurai, United Kingdom – Member





### Pre-Day & Lunch Symposia Committee

Ibrahim Obeid, France – Chair  
 Radek Kaiser, Czech Republic – Member  
 Shah Nawaz Haleem, United Kingdom – Member  
 Ayman Assi, Lebanon – Member

### Programme Committee

Javier Pizones, Spain – Chair  
 Christoph Siepe, Germany – Institutional  
 Marco Teli, Italy – Institutional  
 Fabio Galbusera, Italy – Member  
 Caglar Yilgör, Turkey – Member  
 Daniel Haschtmann, Switzerland – Member  
 Marc Dreimann, Germany – Member  
 Konstantinos Starantzis, Greece – Member  
 Friederike Schömig, Germany – Member  
 Susana Nunes, Spain – Member

### TF Interprofessional Spine Care

Margareta Nordin, France – Co-Chair  
 Pierre Côté, Canada – Co-Chair  
 Berit Schiottz-Christensen – Observer  
 Jamiu Busari, United Kingdom – Member  
 Stéphane Genevay, Switzerland – Member  
 Annette Ranhoff, Norway – Member  
 Lisa Roberts, United Kingdom – Member  
 Louis-Rachid Salmi, France – Advisor  
 Eva Skillgate, Sweden – Member  
 Steven Vogel, United Kingdom – Member  
 Erik Werner, Norway – Member  
 Fabio Zaina, Italy – Member  
 Alberto Zerbi, Italy – Member  
 Caroline Treanor, Ireland – Member  
 Richard Brown, United Kingdom – Member

### TF Research

Carmen Vleggeert-Lankamp, Netherlands – Chair  
 Christine Cedraschi, Switzerland – Member  
 Yann Philip Charles, France – Member  
 Pierre Coté, Canada – Member  
 Bart Depreitere, Belgium – Member  
 Silvano Ferrari, Italy – Member  
 Werner Schmoelz, Austria – ex officio  
 Karin Wuertz-Kozak, Switzerland – Member  
 Nadège Lemeunier, France – Member  
 Tamar Pincus, United Kingdom – Member  
 Marco Campello, United States – Member

### TF Spine Tango

Sabrina Donzelli, Italy – Chair  
 Bart Depreitere, Belgium – Advisor  
 Andrea Luca, Italy – Advisor  
 Everard Munting, Belgium – Advisor



Emin Aghayev, Switzerland – Member  
 Pedro Dos Santos Silva, Portugal – Member  
 Jiří Dvořák, Switzerland – Member  
 Josef Grohs, Austria – Member  
 Beat Leimbacher, Switzerland – Member  
 Samuel Morris, United Kingdom – Member  
 Enrico Gallazzi, Italy – Member

**TF Surgical Spine Centres of Excellence**

Haluk Berk, Turkey – Chair  
 Thomas Blattert, Germany – Institutional  
 Sven Eicker, Germany – Member  
 Teija Lund, Finland – Member  
 Andreas Pingel, Germany – Member  
 Constantin Schizas, Switzerland – ESF  
 Clemens Weber, Germany – ESF  
 Christophe Siepe, Germany – Institutional  
 Fabio Zaina, Italy – Member, representing EDISC

**TF THEMIS**

Andrea Luca, Italy – Chair  
 Laura Scaramuzzo, Italy – Member  
 Silvia Spinelli, Italy – Member  
 Enrico Gallazzi, Italy – Member  
 Lisa Roberts, United Kingdom – Member  
 Anne Mannion, United Kingdom – Member  
 Johan van Lerbeirghe, Belgium – Member

**Nomination Committee**

Thomas Blattert, Germany – Chair  
 Christophe Siepe, Germany – Institutional Member  
 Everard Munting, Belgium – Institutional Chair  
 Caroline Treanor, Ireland – Member  
 Jarkko Halme, Finland – Member  
 Enrico Gallazzi, Italy – Member

**Brain & Spine Journal**

Frank Kandziora, Germany - Editor-in-Chief  
 Wilco Peul, Netherlands - Editor-in-Chief





## CONTACT

### Office Team

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President

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President-elect

Yann-Philippe Charles, France

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Past President

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Secretary

Christoph Siepe, Germany

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Delegate to the ExCom

Beat Leimbacher, Switzerland

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# Addendum: List of New Members

FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	CITY	COUNTRY
Fathy	Abdalfatah	Sohag	Egypt
MohammedElhassan	Abdalla	Wadmadani	Sudan
Nasser	Abdelgawad	Doha	Luxembourg
Ahmed	Abdel-Lateef	Tanta	Egypt
Mahmoud	Aboelsaad	Gelsenkirchen	Germany
Luay	Abu alia	Zarqa	Jordan
Basel	Abu-Serieh	Brussels	Belgium
Nischal	Acharya	Orange	United States
Gökhan	Acka	Kocaeli	Turkey
Rodrigo	Adry	São Paulo	Brazil
Wasil	Ahmed	New York	United States
Ali	Al Zoubi	Münster	Germany
Flavia	Alberghina	Dublin	Ireland
Etemad-Sajadi	Ali	Lausanne	Switzerland
Hassan	Allouch	Stuttgart	Germany
Moustafa	Alrahwaji	Muelheim an der Ruhr	Germany
Mohammad	Al-Smadi	Nyiregyháza	Hungary
Daniel	Altman	Pittsburgh	United States
Michael	Anderton	Taunton	United Kingdom
Anani	Apedjinou	Hildesheim	Germany
Starifulkani	Arif	Jakarta	Indonesia
Michelle	Atkinson	Eastwood	Australia
Fedan	Avrumova	New York	United States
Olatilewa	Awe	Marshfield	United States
Maria	Babarro-Gonzalez	Wien	Austria
Gerges	Baher	Sohag	Egypt
Mohammed	Bamoussa	Taif	Saudia Arabia
Aydn Talat	Baydar	Istanbul	Turkey
Daniel	Begrich	Mühlheim an der Ruhr	Germany
Sirajeddin	Belkhair	Doha	Qatar
Amani	Belouaer	Genève	Switzerland
Md Kaoser	Bin Siddique	Bogura	Bangladesh
Andrija	Bitunjac	Zagreb	Croatia
Davide	Bizzoca	Bari	Italy
Boris	Blaić Mrđenović	Rijeka	Croatia
Lukas	Bobinski	Umeå	Sweden
Amal	Boules	Kooge	Denmark
Pavlos	Bountliakis	Herne	Germany
Solveig	Brekke	Bergen	Norway
Antonio Diego	Bruno	Torino	Italy
Rob	Bullen	Gloucester	United Kingdom
Francesco	Caiazzo	Barcelona	Spain
Gaston	Camino Willhuber	San Sebastian	Spain
Matthieu	Campana	Périgueux	France
Suat	Canbay	Ankara	Turkey
Juan	Cano	Zafra	Spain
Andriids	Čaplinskis	Rīga	Latvia
Gabriele	Capo	Rozzano	Italy
Crescenzo	Capone	Nottwil	Switzerland

FAMILY NAME	LAST NAME	CITY	COUNTRY
Barbara	Cappelletto	Udine	Italy
Guillermo	Carbayo Lozano	barakaldo	Spain
Alessandro	Cattolico	Napoli	Italy
WAEL	Chaaban	Abu Dhabi	United Arab Emirates
Anand	Chalasanani	Karlsbad	Germany
Mykhailo	Chervatiuk	Kyiv	Ukraine
Seungwon	Choi	Daejeon	South Korea
Joshua	Collingwood	Daw Park	Australia
Ana M	Comasòlives	Valladolid	Spain
Doan	Co-Minh	Saran	France
Gerard	Cousins	Inverness	United Kingdom
Tim	Couvreur	Veurne	Belgium
Niall	Craig	Glasgow	United Kingdom
Hitesh	Dabasia	Milton Keynes	United Kingdom
Emir	Darcan	Istanbul	Turkey
Alice	Darnis	Sainte Foy les Lyon	France
Davor	Dasic	Bristol	United Kingdom
Aryan	Dawoodi	St. Jelier	Jersey
Eduardo Alejandro	Daza Serrano	Bad Pyrmont	Germany
Nelson	De Carvalho	Lisboa	Portugal
Jeroen	De Groot	Knokke Heist	Belgium
Rolando Gerardo Fausto	Dela Cruz	Cabanatuan City	Philippines
Pranajaya	Dharma Kadar	Medan, Sumatera Utara	Indonesia
Bruno	Direito Santos	Braga	Portugal
Raul	Echeverri Guerra	Oviedo	Spain
Markus	Eichler	Heidelberg	Germany
Andreas	Ellmerer	Innsbruck	Austria
Mahmoud	Elmalky	Greater Manchester	United Kingdom
P.H.J.M.	Elsenburg	Bilthoven	Netherlands
Gisberto	Evangelisti	New York	United States
Iakiv	Fishchenko	Kyiv	Ukraine
Jana	Frangi	Zurich	Switzerland
Claire	Gallagher	Dublin 7	Ireland
Jose Maria	Garcia de la Rosa	Monterrey	Mexico
Ozcar Felipe	Garcia Lopez	Mexico City	Mexico
Jose Ernesto	Garcia Valerio	Guadalajara	Mexico
Ruth	Geuze	Tilburg	Netherlands
Ahmed	Gharbi	Strasbourg	France
Mohammadali	Ghasemi	Åarhus	Denmark
Marialaura	Giamundo	Zurich	Switzerland
Mauricio	Giraldi	Teresina	Brazil
Maja	Gocević	Zürich	Switzerland
Sikheto Samuel	Golele	Ga-Rankuwa	South Africa
Manuel	Gomez	Chile	Chile
Alejandro	Gomez-Rice	Madrid	Spain
Ankur	Goswami	Nottingham	United Kingdom
Alex	Goubran	Taunton	United Kingdom
Stefan	Grossauer	Vienna	Austria
André	Guimarães	Vila Real	Portugal
Cafer İikbal	Gulsever	Istanbul	Turkey



FAMILY NAME	LAST NAME	CITY	COUNTRY
Uri	Hadelsberg	Jerusalem	Israel
Albert	Haller	Rijeka	Croatia
Kaled	Hammoudeh	Herne	Germany
Mohammed Yassine	Haouas	Casablanca	Morocco
Inamul	Haque	Guwahati	India
Muireann	Harte	Dublin	Ireland
Mark	Havinga	Hengelo	Netherlands
Nessa	Healy	Dublin	Ireland
Sem	Hermans	Heerlen	Netherlands
Jose	Hermida	Panama	Panama
Håvard	Hestdalen	Oslo	Norway
Bastian	Himpe	Frankfurt am Main	Germany
Anders	Høj	Køge	Denmark
Tomáš	Hosszú	Hradec Králové	Czech Republic
Jan	Hradil	Liberec	Czech Republic
Panpan	Hu	Beijing	China
Alexander	Hughes	New York	United States
Victor	Hvingelby	Aarhus N	Denmark
Ismail	Ibrahim	Istanbul	Turkey
Vasilios G.	Igoumenou	Stuttgart	Germany
Mergeanu	Ionut Alin	Ovidiu	Romania
Tetsuhiro	Ishikawa	Chiba	Japan
Omar	Jaber	Neuwied	Germany
Benoît	JENNY	Genève	Switzerland
Nina	Kabelitz	Zürich	Switzerland
Athanasios	Karras	Ingolstadt	Germany
Ruhan	Kazı	Ahmedabad	India
Amir	Khadmy	Tel aviv	Israel
Bilal	Khan	Peshawar	Pakistan
Damien	Kimber	Birmingham	United Kingdom
Gil	Kimchi	Ramay Gan	Israel
Cihan	Kırçıl	Kırşehir	Turkey
Kyriakos	Kitsopoulos	Ludwigshafen	Germany
Tetsuya	Kobayashi	Asahikawa	Japan
Chan Hee	Koh	London	United Kingdom
Leon-Gordian	Köpke	Hamburg	Germany
Romuald Olivier	Kouitcheu Ngankam	Abidjan	Côte d'Ivoire
Maria	Kozłowska	Wysokie Mazowieckie	Poland
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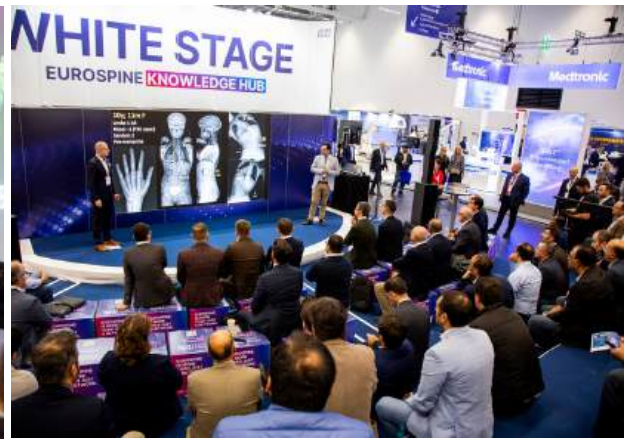
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**Publisher**

EUROSPINE, the Spine Society of Europe  
c/o Pfister Treuhand AG  
Bankstrasse 4  
8610 Uster-Zürich  
Switzerland

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**Published**

Annually