



EURO
SPINE

ANNUAL REPORT 2025

One Spine Community.
One Focus. One Direction.

Table of Content

Annual Report | 2025

03

MESSAGE FROM THE
PRESIDENTS

05

EUROSPINE ANNUAL
MEETING 2025

07

EDUCATION

09

EDISC

11

RESEARCH

12

SPINE TANGO

14

COMMUNITY &
LEADERSHIP

16

EUSSAB

18

PATIENT LINE

19

BRAIN & SPINE

20

MARKETING &
COMMUNICATION

21

TREASURER'S
STATEMENT

22

AUDITOR'S REPORT

23

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
MINUTES

24

COMMITTEES

28

CONTACT

MESSAGE FROM THE PAST PRESIDENT AND PRESIDENT

As we reflect on another successful year for EUROSPINE, we do so with profound gratitude, pride and optimism. This Annual Report marks not only another year of substantial achievements, but also a defining milestone in the evolution of our Society. Over the past 18 months, we took the opportunity to step back, evaluate our future trajectory and chart a clear strategic roadmap to guide EUROSPINE for years to come.

The world around us is changing rapidly. Healthcare systems face relentless pressures, scientific societies are challenged to deliver substantial value to their members and stakeholders, and the needs of spine professionals continue to evolve across every stage of their careers. Rather than merely reacting to these shifts, we chose to look inward to re-evaluate who we are, where EUROSPINE can make the most profound impact, and how we can best serve our stakeholders, above all, our members throughout their professional lives.

This strategic review reaffirmed that EUROSPINE's future rests upon five mission-critical activities that define our Society and differentiate our work: **Community & Leadership, the Annual Meeting, Education Week, Spine Tango and Research**. Our objective is not simply to expand, but to focus our resources where EUROSPINE can drive the maximum positive impact to support our members, our partners and, ultimately, the patients who rely on our collective care. None of these five stands alone. Their value emerges from how they interlock.

At the heart of this vision lies **Community & Leadership**, the element that turns addition into multiplication. We are committed to supporting spine specialists throughout their professional lifespan by nurturing a lifelong member journey, spanning early-career education and scientific exchange to high-level research, networking and leadership development. In doing so, we are actively identifying, cultivating and inspiring the next generation of leaders who will steer EUROSPINE into the future.

Each of our mission-critical activities plays a distinct role in supporting our members throughout their professional careers. Together, they form a coherent portfolio that creates far greater value than any individual programme could achieve on its own. One plus one makes three. **Our Annual Meeting** continues to unite the international spine community, serving as both our scientific cornerstone and financial anchor. **Education** and our EduWeek continue to evolve to equip future generations of specialists with cutting-edge expertise. **Spine Tango** is advancing into a premier international platform for quality improvement, real-world evidence and collaborative clinical research, while our **Research** initiatives are expanding to accelerate scientific innovation and deepen international collaboration.

Sustaining this momentum are several key strategic enablers. Through EuSSAB, we continue to reinforce our ties with Europe's national spine societies, while our broadening international alliances extend EUROSPINE's global reach and strengthen collaboration with partner societies around the globe. Enhanced Marketing & Communications efforts ensure a vibrant, year-round community by keeping members informed, engaged and inspired. Ongoing investments in digital technology, organisational agility and professional support ensure EUROSPINE remains resilient and ready to deliver on its ambitions in a dynamic global environment.

We extend our sincere gratitude to our long-standing MedTech industry partners. Their enduring trust, commitment and collaboration remain pivotal to EUROSPINE's success. By working together while safeguarding the absolute scientific independence that defines our Society, these partnerships empower us to invest in education, research and pioneering new initiatives on a firm financial foundation.

Delivering on these bold ambitions requires an equally resilient organisation. Accordingly, we have taken deliberate steps to fortify our organisational structure, governance and operational capabilities, ensuring EUROSPINE remains agile, efficient and fully equipped to serve our members,

volunteers and partners with excellence.

The pages that follow showcase what is possible when members, volunteers, committees, councils, faculty, reviewers, national spine societies, industry partners and our dedicated EUROSPINE office team unite around a shared vision. Every chapter in this report is a testament to your expertise, generosity and unwavering passion for elevating spine care.

To everyone who contributed to this exceptional year and helped lay the groundwork for our future, we extend our deepest thanks. EUROSPINE has never sought to be the largest society. Our ambition is to be the society that offers the highest level of meaningful support to its members, partners and the global spine community. Your spirit of collaboration and dedication to excellence makes this vision a reality.

One Spine Community. One Focus. One Direction. These words embody the spirit of the journey we share. We hope this report not only celebrates our joint accomplishments but also inspires confidence and excitement for the road ahead. Individually, each of us contributes one part. Together, we prove every year that one plus one makes three, that the whole is greater than the sum of its parts. Thank you for walking this path with us.

Dominique Rothenfluh and Yann Philippe Charles



EUROSPINE ANNUAL MEETING 2025: ELEVATING MEETINGS INTO LANDMARK EVENTS

Following the success of the Annual Meeting in Vienna in 2024, EUROSPINE took deliberate steps to further strengthen the Annual Meeting format in 2025. By incorporating participant feedback and implementing targeted enhancements, we achieved an outstanding balance of scientific rigour and educational innovation. Held from 22 to 24 October in the vibrant city of Copenhagen, the 2025 Annual Meeting remained firmly focused on delivering a premier, high-quality in-person experience. It became our most successful gathering to date, surpassing even pre-pandemic attendance levels.

Unprecedented Global Engagement

The Copenhagen meeting achieved remarkable growth, welcoming 3,837 on-site delegates from 87 countries. This represented an 11% increase in paying delegates compared with 2024, alongside an encouraging 18% increase in participation from EUROSPINE members. This strong turnout reflects growing engagement within our community and reinforces EUROSPINE's position as the leading European platform for spine care professionals.

Meeting Council 2025: Championing Scientific and Educational Excellence

A major driver of this year's success was the fully implemented revised Meeting Council structure, which established a clear distinction between the Scientific Programme Committee and the Educational Programme Committee. This separation ensured transparent and balanced curation across both domains.

The 2025 programme encompassed the full spectrum of spine care subspecialties, offering a carefully balanced mix of abstract-driven science and curated keynote content. Highly regarded international speakers further strengthened the meeting's scientific profile, with several invited faculty members subsequently joining EUROSPINE as a direct result of their positive experience—further reinforcing the long-term impact of the event.

Key Programme Innovations and Developments in 2025

- **Rigorous Scientific Review:** Implemented expert, blinded reviews for all submitted abstracts, successfully addressing the emerging challenges of AI-generated submissions to ensure that only the highest-quality research was presented.
- **Dynamic Plenary Sessions:** Introduced structured "Audience Favourite" plenary sessions (daily from 11:00–12:00) while maintaining nine thematic topic sessions, together with the highly anticipated Best of Show audience voting.
- **Integrated Technology:** Shifted "New Technologies" from a standalone session to an integrated subcategory across all abstract domains, reflecting its growing role throughout modern spine care.
- **Interactive Learning Formats:** Further refined the Masterclass format with a stronger practical expert focus, expanded small-group case discussions on the White Stage, and further developed the Spine Science Chat platform.
- **Pre-Day Hands-On Training:** Launched a PreDay Endoscopic Spine Surgery hands-on course, combining industry-provided equipment with fully independent EUROSPINE scientific leadership.
- **The All-in-One Venue Concept:** Continued to optimise the unified venue layout, encouraging networking, cross-disciplinary interaction and industry engagement.

Programme development was continuously informed by structured evaluation and participant feedback, allowing us to refine session formats and further improve the overall delegate experience while maintaining consistently high scientific and educational standards.

SPINE360: FOSTERING THE NEXT GENERATION OF SPINE LEADERS

A key focus for 2025 was the strategic integration of early-career professionals in the meeting. Under the guidance of the Community & Leadership Council, we proudly launched the SPINE360 Live Event, a dedicated pathway featuring targeted networking and follow-up mentoring. Supported by a generous funding initiative from the local convention bureau, *Wonderful Copenhagen*, we established a new Early Career Fund that awarded travel support to 20 emerging spine care professionals.

Furthermore, the jointly initiated EuSSAB President's Event further strengthened our collaboration with national spine societies across Europe, ensuring that the Annual Meeting continues to serve as a truly shared European platform.

Outlook 2026: Refining the Landmark Experience

As we look beyond Copenhagen, the Annual Meeting remains the flagship pillar of EUROSPINE's international positioning and financial sustainability. In 2026, we will focus on matching session formats with the most appropriate stage environments to maximise attendance, interaction and educational value. We are committed to further expanding SPINE360, introducing moderated controversy and debate sessions, and leveraging our international network to attract world-renowned faculty.

Through sustainable MedTech partnerships and continuous innovation, we will ensure that the EUROSPINE Annual Meeting remains the leading European event in spine care.

In addition, we will:

- Expand early-career integration
- Strengthen the scientific visibility of submitted research
- Increase interactive formats
- Further develop case discussion formats with clinically relevant take-home messages.
- Make more structured use of international cooperation networks to attract renowned international faculty and broaden perspectives.
- Continue building sustainable long-term MedTech partnerships aligned with EUROSPINE's educational and scientific objectives.

The Annual Meeting remains EUROSPINE's flagship activity and a central pillar of both financial sustainability and international positioning. Our objective is not only to sustain growth, but also to maintain excellence, relevance and strong community engagement.



EDUCATION: EXPANDING THE EUROSPINE EDUCATIONAL PATHWAY

In 2025, EUROSPINE took significant strides in its mission to be a leading force for spine education worldwide. By championing high-quality, practice-oriented learning, the Education Council further strengthened our structured educational pathway, empowering both early-career trainees and experienced spine specialists. Through a combination of hands-on surgical training, innovative digital platforms and international collaboration, we continue to shape the future of evidence-based spine care across disciplines and borders.

EduWeek 2025: The Cornerstone of Experiential Learning

EduWeek remains the flagship event of EUROSPINE's educational calendar. Once again hosted at the IRCAD Institute in Strasbourg, France, the programme brought together the complete EUROSPINE Diploma curriculum within a single, coordinated learning framework. The 2025 edition offered 11 comprehensive courses covering basic, advanced and highly specialised topics, ranging from degenerative spine surgery, trauma and spinal deformities to basic and advanced endoscopy and research.

To maximise clinical impact, the programme continued to build on its blended-learning approach. Participants completed self-paced e-learning before arriving in Strasbourg, allowing the on-site programme to focus entirely on practical application. Through cadaveric laboratories (CadLabs), advanced surgical simulations, hands-on skills stations covering minimally invasive approaches, complex deformity correction, navigation, robotics, and AI-assisted workflow planning, complemented by interactive "Bring Your Own Case" (BYOC) discussions, participants translated theoretical knowledge directly into practical expertise and real-world clinical decision-making.

Digital Expansion: The Success of Spine Tuesday

Beyond our in-person masterclasses, EUROSPINE further expanded its digital educational portfolio to provide year-round, flexible learning opportunities. Our Spine Tuesday webinar series continued to broaden access to expert-led education. Designed to bring together spine professionals from across clinical practice, these free webinars addressed clinically relevant topics in depth while encouraging interdisciplinary exchange. In 2025, the series delivered nine sessions, attracting an increasing number of participants. Spine Tuesday continues to strengthen an accessible international community of practice and complements our established face-to-face educational activities.

European Training Requirements (ETR): Setting the Standard for Spine Surgery Education

A major milestone in 2025 was the completion of the first version of European Training Requirements (ETR) in Spine Surgery. Developed by our dedicated Task Force in close collaboration with the European Association of Neurosurgical Societies (EANS) and the European Board of Orthopaedics and Traumatology (EBOT), the ETR represents a further step towards harmonising spine surgery education across Europe.

Achievements and Strategic Importance

In the long run, the ETR aim to establish a common educational standard for spine surgery across Europe while providing the foundation for the future European Board Examination in Spine Surgery.

By defining these standards, EUROSPINE helps ensure that future spine specialists acquire the operative competencies, evidence-based knowledge and interprofessional skills required to deliver high-quality patient care, irrespective of where they are trained in Europe.



Fellowship Programmes: Investing in the Next Generation of Spine Leaders

2025 also marked a milestone year for EUROSPINE's fellowship activities, offering early-career spine specialists immersive, hands-on international learning experiences.

The EUROSPINE-JSSR Travelling Fellowship Programme, supported by Medtronic Cranial and Spine Therapies, sent Sleiman Haddad and Fabrizio Russo to Japan, combining participation in the JSSR Annual Meeting with site visits to leading institutions in Chiba, Yamanashi and Osaka, deepening international exchange on topics from ageing spine care to AI-driven research.

In parallel, EUROSPINE launched the inaugural Robotics & Navigation Fellowship Programme, supported by Globus Medical. Eight fellows began with a Skills Lab in Amsterdam before rotating through leading spine centres in the UK, Germany and France, concluding at the EUROSPINE Annual Meeting in Copenhagen.

Together, these programmes reflect EUROSPINE's commitment to developing the next generation of spine leaders across borders and disciplines.

Outlook 2026

Looking ahead, EUROSPINE will continue to refine its educational portfolio by further expanding blended-learning formats, strengthening faculty development and integrating its programmes within the evolving European training framework for spine surgery. At the same time, work will continue on modernising EduWeek, further developing endoscopy education and creating an even more flexible and accessible learning pathway for spine professionals.



EDISC: INTERPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION FOR GLOBAL SPINE CARE

In 2025, the EUROSPINE Diploma in Interprofessional Spine Care (EDISC) further strengthened its role as a leading programme promoting interdisciplinary collaboration in spine care education. Guided by the programme's motto—championing Evidence-based Practice, Patient-centred Care, Interprofessional and Collaborative Networking—EDISC is designed to break down traditional clinical boundaries. Delivered through a fully virtual and flexible format, the programme brings together clinicians from diverse professions and healthcare systems to promote shared learning and improve the quality and delivery of spine care worldwide.

The comprehensive curriculum comprises seven stand-alone modules that develop essential core knowledge and skills, including critical literature appraisal and communication, alongside key clinical topics. These include the assessment and management of spinal pain, care of the ageing patient, spinal deformities across the life course, and the management and prevention of disability. Through expert-led interactive lectures, case-based workshops and dynamic group discussions, EDISC enables participants to translate theoretical knowledge into collaborative clinical decision-making across different disciplines and healthcare systems.

In 2025, the programme successfully delivered all seven modules to 170 participants from 26 countries. The multidisciplinary cohort reflected the broad spectrum of professionals involved in contemporary spine care, creating a unique environment for interdisciplinary learning and knowledge transfer.

The programme also aligns closely with the objectives of the WHO Rehabilitation 2030 initiative by supporting the development of a highly skilled, interdisciplinary workforce prepared to meet the growing global demand for spine care and rehabilitation services. To promote equitable access to this education, EUROSPINE awarded 10 free bursaries to participants from eight low- and middle-income countries, further reinforcing our commitment to global workforce development.

Participant feedback consistently remained highly positive, highlighting the programme's contemporary clinical relevance, the quality of its international faculty and its contribution to collaborative clinical practice.

Outlook 2026

Looking ahead, EUROSPINE will further refine EDISC to strengthen its strategic role within the overall educational portfolio, given the increasing interest in this diploma among spine surgeons in addition to professionals delivering conservative care. While interdisciplinary education will remain a core principle, the programme will place greater emphasis on supporting clinicians across the whole spine care pathway in developing the conservative skills in assessment and treatment, essential for comprehensive spine care. This refined focus will strengthen EDISC's purpose, target audience and integration within EUROSPINE's structured educational pathway, while continuing to promote collaboration across the wider spine care community.





RESEARCH: BUILDING THE FOUNDATION FOR THE NEXT PHASE OF EUROSPINE RESEARCH

Research remains one of EUROSPINE's five mission-critical activities and plays a central role in advancing evidence-based spine care. During 2025, EUROSPINE laid the foundations for a more focused and integrated research strategy by strengthening research capacity, expanding international collaborations and further leveraging the opportunities provided by Spine Tango and other collaborative research initiatives. The emphasis will increasingly shift towards building sustainable research infrastructure and addressing questions of strategic importance for the spine community.

Research Education: Evolving to Meet Future Needs

Developing future clinical researchers remains an important objective for EUROSPINE. In 2025, the Research Course marked the completion of an important phase in our educational programme. As research continues to evolve, we will review both the content and format of our future educational activities. Rather than duplicating existing university programmes, EUROSPINE aims to provide targeted educational opportunities that complement academic training and address the specific needs of the spine research community by providing dedicated e-learning content to our members.

Building an Integrated Research Platform

During 2025, EUROSPINE continued to strengthen the integration of its research activities around three strategic pillars: the PREPARE Horizon project, the Spine Atlas Initiative and the newly established Directed Research Initiative (DRI). Together, these initiatives provide a framework for collaborative research and make better use of the Society's growing research infrastructure. The close integration between the Research Committee and Spine Tango will further strengthen registry-based research, international collaboration and the generation of high-quality clinical evidence for clinical topics of broad interest in our surgical and non-surgical spine community.

Research Grants

The 2025 grant programme concluded the previous funding cycle with four projects selected following a rigorous scientific review.

At the same time, EUROSPINE initiated a review of its future funding strategy as part of the Society's broader research transformation. While research grants will remain an important instrument to support scientific innovation, greater emphasis will be placed on defining and initiating directed research projects of strategic importance to EUROSPINE. Different funding models, including individual grants, collaborative grants and support for EUROSPINE-led initiatives, will be considered to ensure that available resources achieve the greatest possible scientific impact.

International Collaboration

International collaboration continued to expand through initiatives such as PREPARE and the Spine Atlas Initiative, bringing together clinicians, researchers and data scientists from multiple countries and strengthening EUROSPINE's contribution to international spine research.

Outlook 2026

In 2026, EUROSPINE will continue implementing its renewed research strategy by further developing the Directed Research Initiative and initiating a first observational multicentre trial on health-related quality of life after different treatment strategies of incomplete burst (A3) fractures at the thoracolumbar junction, accounting for differences across European health care systems. This initiative will complete existing structures by expanding the Spine Atlas Initiative and strengthening the integration between Research and Spine Tango. The overall objective is to build a sustainable research platform that enables collaborative, high-impact clinical research and delivers meaningful benefits for patients, clinicians and healthcare systems.

SPINE TANGO DRIVING QUALITY, RESEARCH AND INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

Quality assurance, clinical benchmarking and collaborative research across the international spine community with the Spine Tango platform remains one of EUROSPINE's most important strategic assets. During 2025, the platform continued to evolve through further improvements in usability, research capabilities and international collaboration, reinforcing its role as an integrated clinical registry and research infrastructure.

The expertise gained over many years enables EUROSPINE to support other countries in establishing and operating national registries efficiently using a mature infrastructure that continues to evolve in response to users' needs and technological developments. The successful operation of the Swiss Spine Registry has established Spine Tango as a proven best-practice platform for national spine registries.

Together with the Research Committee, Spine Tango forms the foundation for strategic initiatives and projects including the Directed Research Initiative (DRI), the Spine Atlas Initiative and the PREPARE Horizon project. Supported by its comprehensive and widely accepted implant catalogue, the platform provides independent, high-quality real-world evidence on implant and treatment performance, creating value for clinicians, researchers, healthcare systems and MedTech partners alike while maintaining EUROSPINE's strict standards of scientific independence, governance and data protection.

Key Achievements in 2025

Major milestones during the year included:

- Continued simplification of data collection and optimisation of its workflows, making the Spine Tango application and quality assurance in the daily clinical practice as accessible and straightforward as possible while maintaining high data quality.
- Successful operation and further development of the Swiss Spine Registry, providing a proven model for supporting additional national spine registries.
- Launch of the hospital audits on sites in the Swiss Spine Registry.
- Expansion of the comprehensive implant catalogue, enabling unbiased evaluation of implant and treatment performance across manufacturers and technologies.
- Further development of implant reports in close collaboration with MedTech.
- Further development of patient-centred outcome collection, strengthening the assessment of treatment success from the patient's perspective.
- Increased visibility of participating centres and their registry activities during the EUROSPINE Annual Meeting, recognising the contribution of the clinical community and encouraging wider quality assurance and investigator-driven research using available Spine Tango data.
- Completion of the first international data call and further progress of the Spine Atlas Initiative, pioneering international collaboration through large-scale registry data and creating new opportunities for global spine research.
- Continued contribution to the PREPARE Horizon project and further harmonisation of registry data to support international collaborative research.
- Ongoing strengthening of the partnership between Spine Tango and the Research Committee, creating an increasingly integrated platform for registry-based research and innovation.



Outlook 2026

Looking ahead, Spine Tango will continue to strengthen its role as a platform for quality assurance, benchmarking and collaborative research. Priorities include expanding support for national spine registries, further improving user experience and data quality, strengthening patient-centred outcome assessment and advancing collaborative initiatives such as Spine Atlas, PREPARE and the Directed Research Initiative. Functional development will include a native app and the flexibility to add optional additional timepoints to electronic patient-reported outcome measures (ePROMs). The next version of hospital reports will include standardised comparative key metrics. By combining continuous innovation with high-quality clinical data and strong international collaboration, Spine Tango will remain a cornerstone of EUROSPINE's long-term strategy for improving spine care and advancing clinical research.



COMMUNITY & LEADERSHIP: CREATING A YEAR-ROUND MEMBER JOURNEY

Community & Leadership has become the strategic umbrella above all of EUROSPINE's mission-critical activities. By connecting education, research, Spine Tango, the Annual Meeting and international collaboration into one continuous member journey, EUROSPINE is creating opportunities for members to learn, connect, contribute and ultimately help shape the future of the Society.

A thriving Society is built throughout the year—not only during the Annual Meeting. EUROSPINE is therefore creating an environment where members at every stage of their careers can engage with the Society, expand their professional network, contribute their expertise and progressively take on greater responsibilities. Whether at the beginning of a career, in mid-career or already an established leader, every member should find meaningful opportunities to become part of the EUROSPINE community and help shape its future.

Key Achievements in 2025

Membership continued to grow, further strengthening EUROSPINE as Europe's leading multidisciplinary spine society and reflecting the increasing value members place on an active international professional community.

Spine360 – the centrepiece of our year-round career pathway

The launch of Spine360 marked one of the year's most important milestones. As the centrepiece of EUROSPINE's year-round career pathway, Spine360 provides a dedicated home for early-career spine professionals—creating new opportunities to learn, connect, collaborate and become actively involved in the Society from the very beginning of their careers.

More than a new initiative, Spine360 represents an open invitation to the next generation of spine specialists to contribute fresh ideas, build international networks and help shape the future direction of EUROSPINE.

Creating opportunities to connect

Strong professional communities are built through personal connections. Meet & Connect sessions became a popular addition to the Annual Meeting, creating informal opportunities for members from different countries, specialities, and career stages to exchange ideas, establish new collaborations and strengthen the unique spirit of the EUROSPINE community.

Throughout the year, members also benefited from an expanding portfolio of educational programmes, networking opportunities, international collaborations and increasing opportunities to contribute through committees, councils and strategic initiatives—reinforcing the concept of a continuous member journey rather than isolated events.

Investing in future talent with Early-Career Grants

Supporting the next generation remains a strategic priority. Early Career Grants enabled young members to participate in educational and scientific activities, gain international experience and establish valuable professional networks. Together with Spine360, these initiatives provide a strong foundation for developing future clinicians, researchers and leaders.

Developing tomorrow's leaders with our Leadership Academy

Building on the member journey philosophy, EUROSPINE made significant progress in developing the EUROSPINE Leadership Academy. The Academy will provide a structured pathway to identify, inspire and prepare future leaders through leadership education, mentoring and practical involvement within the Society.

By supporting members as they progress from early career through increasing professional and leadership responsibilities, the Academy represents the next step in strengthening both individual careers and EUROSPINE's long-term leadership succession.

Outlook 2026

Community & Leadership will continue to evolve as the strategic framework connecting all of EUROSPINE's activities. The continued development of Spine360, the launch of the Leadership Academy and further expansion of year-round community initiatives will create even more opportunities for members to engage, contribute and grow throughout their professional careers. EUROSPINE's greatest strength is its people. By investing in its members, encouraging collaboration across disciplines and generations, and creating clear pathways from early career to leadership, the Society is building a vibrant international community that will continue to shape spine care for many years to come.



EUSSAB: A STRONGER VOICE FOR EUROPE'S NATIONAL SPINE SOCIETIES

EuSSAB is EUROSPINE's platform for collaboration with national spine societies across Europe. It brings together the leadership of national organisations to exchange ideas, share best practice and develop common positions on issues that shape the future of spine care. By working together, national societies gain a stronger collective voice than any organisation could achieve alone. While EuSSAB focuses on strengthening collaboration within Europe, partnerships with organisations beyond Europe are developed through EUROSPINE's International Cooperation programme, based on formal Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with strategically selected international societies.

Key Achievements in 2025

Throughout 2025, EuSSAB continued to strengthen collaboration between EUROSPINE and its affiliated national spine societies through regular dialogue, knowledge exchange and joint initiatives.

A major milestone was the inaugural **Presidents' & Representatives' Evening** at the EUROSPINE Annual Meeting. For the first time, Presidents and senior representatives of national spine societies came together in a dedicated forum to discuss common opportunities and challenges, exchange strategic perspectives and contribute directly to shaping EUROSPINE's future direction. The event demonstrated the value of closer collaboration and established a new platform for dialogue between the leadership of Europe's spine societies.

The introduction of revised **Rules of Cooperation** and regular **Open Update Calls** further strengthened communication, transparency and collaboration across the European network, creating new opportunities for national societies to share experiences and actively contribute to EUROSPINE's ongoing development.

The **Award-Winning Lectures** and **Winners in Spine** programme continued to showcase outstanding scientific achievements from national societies, giving award winners European visibility while promoting excellence and the exchange of best practice across borders.

Another important milestone was the publication of the **EU MDR Position Statement**. Bringing together the expertise of spine specialists from across Europe, EUROSPINE demonstrated the unique role it can play in representing the collective interests of the European spine community on issues of strategic importance. By speaking with one coordinated voice, EUROSPINE is increasingly able to contribute to European policy and regulatory discussions and help shape the framework within which spine care will evolve in the future.

Outlook 2026

EuSSAB will continue to strengthen its role as the leading platform for cooperation between Europe's national spine societies. By encouraging closer dialogue, sharing expertise and developing common positions on issues of strategic importance, EUROSPINE aims to ensure that the collective experience of national societies contributes directly to the future development of spine care across Europe.

The continued success of EuSSAB depends on the active engagement of its member societies. EUROSPINE therefore warmly invites national society leaders to participate, share their experience and help shape the future of our European spine community—because together we can achieve far more than any individual organisation alone.



PATIENT LINE: BRINGING PATIENT PERSPECTIVE TO THE FOREFRONT

Key Achievements in 2025

Throughout 2025, the Patient Line continued its work to strengthen collaboration between patient representatives and healthcare professionals, helping to ensure that patient perspectives are considered where they add value to EUROSPINE's activities.

An important future direction is the gradual integration of the patient perspective into multidisciplinary formats that bring together patients and healthcare professionals. The aim is to encourage patient-centred discussions and ensure that conversations around treatment options reflect both current clinical practice and patients' experiences and expectations.

The Patient Line also continued to support selected EUROSPINE initiatives by providing patient input where appropriate, contributing to a broader understanding of patient-centred care across the Society.

Outlook 2026

Working with limited resources but strong commitment, the Patient Line will continue to support the integration of the patient perspective into relevant EUROSPINE activities. Rather than creating stand-alone initiatives, the focus will increasingly be on embedding patient input where it can provide the most significant benefits for members, healthcare professionals and ultimately patients.



BRAIN AND SPINE: A TRAJECTORY OF UNPRECEDENTED GROWTH AND GLOBAL IMPACT

Editors-in-Chief: Frank Kandziora and Wilco Peul

Since its launch just four years ago as a joint, fully open-access venture between EUROSPINE, the European Association of Neurosurgical Societies (EANS), and Elsevier, Brain & Spine has become an extraordinary success story. Driven by a commitment to uncompromising scientific quality, the journal proudly achieved an Impact Factor of 2.5 in June 2025—an impressive increase of 0.6 compared with the previous year.

Exponential Global Reach and Output

Manuscript submissions surged from just 76 in the inaugural year (2021) to 628 in 2025, while the number of published papers increased from 18 to 262. Although the majority of submissions continue to originate from Europe—led by Germany, Italy, the United Kingdom, Switzerland and the Netherlands—the journal has also seen substantial growth in contributions from Asia and North and Central America. This expanding international reach, together with a balanced distribution of content across structural brain and spine topics, reflects the continued support of the EUROSPINE and EANS communities.

The journal's global visibility has grown equally impressively. Annual full-text downloads increased from 28,000 in 2021 to more than 712,000 in 2025, underlining Brain & Spine's rapidly growing international impact.

Uncompromising Quality and Speed

Beyond its remarkable growth, Brain & Spine continues to distinguish itself through scientific excellence, editorial efficiency and high publication standards. Supported by indexation in PubMedCentral, Scopus and Clarivate Web of Science, the journal ensures that published research is highly visible and widely citable.

In 2025, authors received a first editorial decision within an average of six weeks. Where revisions were required, accepted articles were published online within a further four weeks, resulting in an average turnaround time of just 10 weeks from submission to publication.

To further support the academic community, EUROSPINE and EANS members continue to benefit from a 50% discount on article processing charges (APCs).

Strengthening the European Voice Through National Affiliations

A major milestone in 2025 was the introduction of national society affiliations with the journal. Democratically organised, multidisciplinary spinal or neurosurgical societies representing the majority of practitioners in their respective countries can now formally affiliate with Brain & Spine. This initiative provides national societies that may not have the resources to operate their own scientific journal with a recognised European publishing platform, enabling them to publish peer-reviewed meeting abstracts and national award-winning papers while increasing their international visibility.

To date, the Italian, Swiss, German, Dutch, Greek and Czech spine societies have joined the initiative, with several additional societies expressing strong interest. By welcoming affiliated societies, Brain & Spine is increasingly establishing itself as the shared European publishing platform for multidisciplinary spine care, strengthening scientific collaboration across Europe and reinforcing its position as one of the leading journals in the field.

Acknowledgements and Future Outlook

As Editors-in-Chief, we extend our sincere gratitude to our founding societies, our dedicated staff and the Editorial Management Team at Elsevier. We also acknowledge the invaluable contribution of our 12 Senior Editorial Board members, 34 Editorial Board members, 36 Reviewer Board members and a worldwide network of more than 400 expert reviewers. Above all, we thank our authors for their outstanding scientific contributions, which continue to shape the journal's success.

As Brain & Spine further strengthens its international scientific reputation, we remain committed to publishing pioneering, high-quality, evidence-based research, expanding global accessibility and continuing the journal's impressive trajectory in the years ahead.



MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS: BRINGING THE EUROSPINE STRATEGY TO LIFE

Marketing & Communications has become a strategic enabler that connects members with EUROSPINE throughout the year, strengthens the Society's brand and supports all mission-critical activities through clear, consistent and engaging communication. In 2025, the focus shifted from simply communicating activities to creating meaningful engagement and bringing the EUROSPINE strategy to life.

From Communication to Engagement

Throughout the year, Marketing & Communications continued to develop authentic, member-focused communication that encouraged dialogue rather than simply delivering information. Successful initiatives such as #EUROSPINEDiary, From the President's Desk and the This is EUROSPINE series gave members a stronger voice, increased transparency and helped create a more connected and engaged EUROSPINE community.

Supporting the Member Journey

Marketing & Communications played an increasingly important role in supporting EUROSPINE's strategic priorities. Dedicated campaigns promoted initiatives such as SPINE360, mentoring, Early Career Grants and educational programmes, helping members engage with the Society throughout their professional journey. This closer alignment between communication and member needs reinforced the vision of a continuous year-round member experience.

One EUROSPINE Voice

As EUROSPINE continues to grow internationally, consistent communication has become increasingly important. Throughout 2025, Marketing & Communications supported all mission-critical activities while strengthening a clear and recognisable EUROSPINE identity across all communication channels. By presenting one coherent voice, the team helped increase visibility, strengthen engagement and communicate the Society's strategic direction to members, partners and stakeholders alike.

Looking Ahead

Marketing & Communications will continue to evolve as a strategic enabler of EUROSPINE's long-term development. Future priorities include further strengthening personalised member communication, supporting the implementation of the new CRM environment and ensuring that every communication activity contributes to a stronger community, greater international visibility and the successful delivery of EUROSPINE's strategy.

TREASURER'S STATEMENT: FINANCIAL YEAR 2025

Building a Strong, Sustainable Foundation for EUROSPINE's Future

As in previous years, detailed financial statements are available exclusively to EUROSPINE members through the secure members' section of our website.

EUROSPINE remains committed to a long-standing financial principle: maintaining a sound financial position while investing responsibly in the Society's future. We are therefore pleased to report that the 2025 financial year delivered another strong financial result, further strengthening our financial position and providing a solid foundation for the continued development of EUROSPINE.

The environment in which EUROSPINE operates continues to evolve rapidly. Expectations of our members, stakeholders and industry partners are increasing, while competition for education, research and professional engagement continues to grow. In such a dynamic environment, maintaining financial stability while investing in those activities that create a positive impact for our members remains one of our highest priorities.

Investing in Our Core Mission

Throughout 2025, EUROSPINE continued to invest in its five mission-critical activities, all of which are central to the Society's long-term strategy.

Resources were directed towards strengthening the Annual Meeting, further developing our educational portfolio, expanding Community & Leadership initiatives, advancing Spine Tango and Research, and supporting our growing international activities. These investments are helping to further differentiate EUROSPINE, strengthen our international position and create lasting value for our members and partners.

As highlighted throughout this Annual Report, these strategic priorities are already delivering tangible results and provide a strong platform for the Society's continued development.

Financial Stability and Future Outlook

Our positive operating result has enabled EUROSPINE to further strengthen its equity position and continue rebuilding the financial resilience achieved before the pandemic. Together with healthy liquidity, this provides the stability required to implement our long-term strategy with confidence while maintaining prudent financial management.

Looking ahead, we will continue to manage our resources carefully, investing selectively in those initiatives that best support EUROSPINE's mission while preserving the strong financial foundation that has become one of the Society's greatest strengths.

On behalf of the Executive Committee, we would like to thank our members, volunteers, partners and staff for their continued commitment and support. Their dedication remains the driving force behind EUROSPINE's success and its ability to invest confidently in the future.



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

Zug, July 24, 2026

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, 2025.

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 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)

EUROSPINE GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2025 | 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 2025

Executive Committee

Dominique A. Rothenfluh, Switzerland – President
 Philippe Charles, France – Vice President
 Jörg Franke, Germany – President Elect
 Tom P. C. Schlösser, Netherlands – Treasurer
 Ahmet Alanay, Türkiye – Past President
 Christoph Siepe, Germany – Secretary
 Paulo Pereira, Portugal – Education Council Chair
 Jarkko Halme, Finland – EuSSAB Council Chair
 Ibrahim Obeid, France – Meeting Council Chair
 Matti Scholz, Germany – Community & Leadership Council Chair
 Carmen Vleggeert-Lankamp, Netherlands – Research Council Chair
 Everard Munting, Belgium – Rehabilitation Council Chair
 Beat Leimbacher, Switzerland – Delegate to the ExCom

EDISC Committee

Pierre Côté, Canada – Chair
 Everard Munting, Belgium – Member
 Stéphane Genevay, Switzerland – Member
 Lisa Roberts, United Kingdom – Member
 Caroline Treanor, Ireland – Member
 Fabio Zaina, Italy – Member
 Richard Brown, United Kingdom – Member
 Erik Werner, Norway – Member
 Eva Skillgate, Sweden – Member
 Jamiu Busari, Netherlands – Member
 Anette Ranhoff, Norway – Member

Education Committee

Paulo Pereira, Portugal – Education Council Chair
 Yu-Mi Ryang, Germany – Chair Elect
 Stefan Parent, Canada – Member
 Teija Lund, Finland – Member
 Thibault Remacle, Belgium – Member
 Jean Charles Le Huec, France – Member
 Paulo Cibrão Coutinho, Portugal – Member
 Bertrand Debono, France – Member
 Maximo Alberto Diez Ulloa, Spain – Member
 Stacey Darwish, Ireland – Member
 Chrisan Thakar, United Kingdom – Member
 Florian Ringel, Germany – Member
 Florian Geßler, Germany – Member

EuSSAB Committee

Jarkko Halme, Finland – EuSSAB Council Chair
 John Patrick McCabe, Ireland – EuSSAB Vice Representative
 Naffis K. Anjarwalla, United Kingdom – Member

Community & Leadership Committee

Matti Scholz, Germany – Council Chair
 Shahnawaz Haleem, United Kingdom – Member
 Uri Handelsberg, Israel – Member
 Ivan Domazet, Croatia – Member
 Stéphane Genevay, Switzerland – Member
 Stavros Stavridis, Greece – Member
 Karsten Wiechert, Germany – Member



Task Force DEI (Diversity Equity & Inclusion)

Andrea Luca, Italy – Chair
 Laura Scaramuzzo, Italy – Member
 Enrico Gallazzi, Italy – Member
 Cristina Pereira, Portugal – Member
 Graciosa Teixeira, Portugal – Member
 Stéphane Genevay, Switzerland – Member
 Johan Van Lerbeirghe, Netherlands – Member

Task Force Digital Engagement

Christoph Siepe, Germany – Member
 Martin Stangenberg, Germany – Member
 Marc Dreimann, Germany – Member
 Klaus Schnake, Germany – Member
 Shah Nawaz Haleem, United Kingdom – Member

Task Force Early Career

Ivan Domazet, Croatia – Chair
 Dominika Ignasiak, Switzerland – Member
 Jorge Álvaro González Ross, Mexico – Member
 Oliver Wroe Wright – Member
 Peter W. Ferlic, Austria – Member
 Josefin Åkerstedt, Sweden – Member
 Çağlar Yılğör, Türkiye – Member

Task Force Honors & Heritage

Johan Van Lerbeirghe, Belgium – Chair
 Stavros Stavridis, Greece – Member

Task Force Leadership

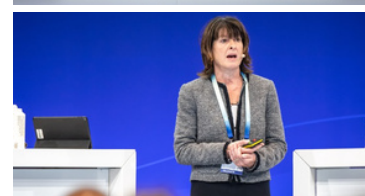
Matti Scholz, Germany – Member
 Uri Handelsberg, Israel – Member

Research Committee

Aria Nouri, Switzerland – Member
 Alice Baroncini, Italy – Member
 Miranda Van Hooff – Member
 Karin Wuertz-Kozak, United States of America – Member
 Yann Philippe Charles, France – Member
 Bart Depreitere, Belgium – Member
 Nadège Lemeunier, France – Member
 Tamar Pincus, United Kingdom – Member
 Werner Schmoelz, Austria – Member
 Marco Campello, United States of America – Member
 Pierre Côté, Canada – Member
 Carmen Vleggeert-Lankamp, Netherlands – Research Council Chair
 Benjamin Blondel, France – Member

Patient Line Committee

Peter W. Ferlic, Austria – Chair
 Everard Munting, Belgium – Rehabilitation Council Chair
 Mehmet Cetinkaya, Türkiye – Member
 Simon Clark, Australia – Member
 Leo Kronberger, Switzerland – Member
 Teresa Bas, Spain – Member
 David Bludovsky, Czech Republic – Member
 Helle Wolff, Denmark – Member



Education Programme Committee

Radek Kaiser, Czech Republic – Committee Chair
 Ibrahim Obeid, France – Meeting Council Chair
 Graciosa Q. Teixeira, Germany – Member
 Çağlar Yılıgör, Türkiye – Member
 Sleiman Haddad, Spain – Member
 Basem Ishak, Germany – Member
 Anouar Bourghli, Saudi Arabia – Member

Scientific Programme Committee

Susana Núñez, Spain – Committee Chair
 Ibrahim Obeid, France – Meeting Council Chair
 Ayman Assi, Lebanon – Member
 Laura Scaramuzzo, Italy – Member
 Maria Wostrack, Germany – Member
 Christoph Siepe, Germany – Institutional Member
 Konstantinos Starantzis, Greece – Member
 Nikos Karavidas, Greece – Member
 Josefin Åkerstedt, Sweden – Member
 Friederike Schömgig, Germany – Member
 Louis Boissiere, France – Member
 Marco Campello, United States of America – Member

Nomination Committee

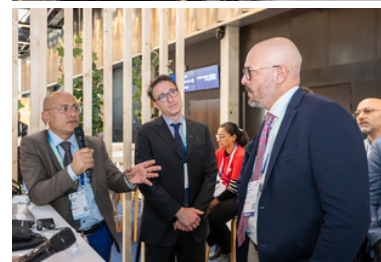
Ahmet Alanay, Türkiye – Committee Chair
 Shahnawaz Haleem, United Kingdom – Institutional Member
 Nikos Karavidas, Greece – Institutional Member
 Teija Lund, Finland – Institutional Member
 Christoph Siepe, Germany – Institutional Member

Spine Tango Committee

Everard Munting, Belgium – Advisor
 Bart Depreitere, Belgium – Advisor
 Sabrina Donzelli, Italy – Chair
 Pedro dos Santos Silva, Portugal – Member
 Emin Aghayev, Switzerland – Core Member, Advisor
 Josef Georg Grohs, Austria – Member
 Enrico Gallazzi, Italy – Member
 Lukas Capek – Member
 Stacey Darwish, Ireland – Member
 Eric Parent, Canada – Advisor

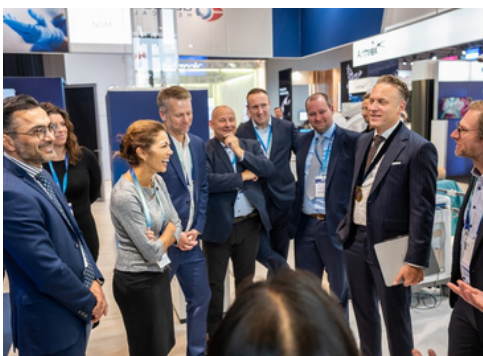
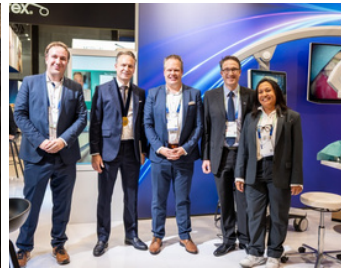
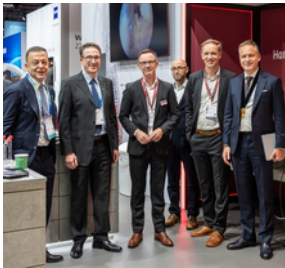
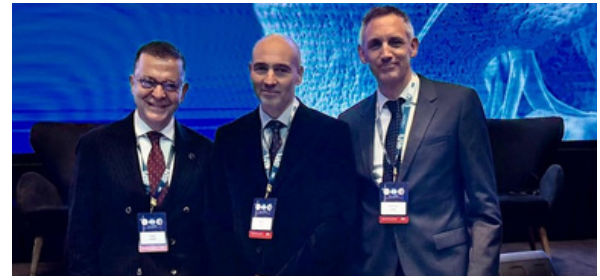
Task Force Surgical Spine Centres of Excellence

Haluk Berk, Türkiye – Chair
 Ahmet Alanay, Türkiye – Past President
 Sven Eicker, Germany – Member
 Clemens Weber, Norway – Foundation
 Everard Munting, Belgium – Institutional Member
 Teija Lund, Finland – Member
 Andreas Pingel, Germany – Member
 Michael Winking, Germany – Member
 Sven Oliver Eicker, Germany – Member
 Fabio Zaina, Italy – Member, representing EDISC
 Constantin Schizas, Switzerland – EUROSPINE Foundation



Task Force International Cooperations

Dominique Rothenfluh, Switzerland – Chair
 Jarkko Halme, Finland – Member
 Carmen Vleggeert-Lankamp, Netherlands – Member
 Elias Papadopoulos, Greece – Member
 Tom P. C. Schlosser, Netherlands – Member
 Clement Silvestre, France – Member
 Paulo Miguel Da Silva Pereira, Portugal – Member



CONTACT

Presidential Line 2026



President

Yann Philippe Charles, Strasbourg, FR
president@eurospine.org



Vice-President

Jörg Franke, Magdeburg, DE
vice.president@eurospine.org



President-elect

Lisa Roberts, Southampton, UK
president.elect@eurospine.org



Past President

Dominique Rothenfluh, Lausanne, CH
past.president@eurospine.org



Secretary

Paulo Pereira, Porto, PT
secretary@eurospine.org



Delegate to the ExCom Non-voting Member

Beat Leimbacher
leimbacher@eurospine.org

Office Team

Executive Director

Jürgen Meier
 E: info@eurospine.org

Director of Education & Research

Julie-Lyn Noël
 E: education@eurospine.org

Project Manager

Romy Scholze
marketing@eurospine.org

Marketing Manager

Anna Faber
 E: marketing@eurospine.org

Quality Assurance Manager

Sandy Sutter
 E: spinetango@eurospine.org

Meetings & Operations Manager

Sandrina Schempp
 E: meetings@eurospine.org

Education & Research Manager

Oriana Pivetta
 E: education@eurospine.org

Community & Membership Manager

Jana Lugthart
 E: membership@eurospine.org

Senior Project Manager & Data Analyst

Christian Herrmann
 E: spinetango@eurospine.org

Growth & Engagement Marketing Manager

Elena Merino
 E: marketing@eurospine.org

Audit Manager

Stefanie Bühlmann
 E: spineatlas@eurospine.org



Publisher

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

Editors

Stephanie Heriveaux
Beat Leimbacher
Anna Faber

Published

Annually

Copyright © EUROSPINE, the Spine Society of Europe, 2026 – All rights reserved.