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DATE
FOCUS
ON

30 MAY 2017
Deadline for poster abstract submission

30 JUNE 2017
Deadline for reduced registration fees
Dear Colleagues and Friends,

On behalf of the Congress Organizing Committee of the European Society for Clinical Virology, I would like to invite all of you to the 20th Annual Meeting of the ESCV which will take place in Stresa, Lake Maggiore, Italy, 13-16 September 2017.

The scientific program, consisting of presentations, symposia, discussions, open sessions and workshops, will be focused on the state of the art as well as the most recent discoveries and innovations in Clinical Virology. Topics of the 20th ESCV Annual Meeting will include: respiratory viruses, gastrointestinal viruses, virus-associated neurologic syndromes, virus-associated tumors, hepatitis viruses, HIV and other retroviruses, viruses in immunocompromised patients, viral infections in pregnancy, emerging viruses, immune response to viral infections, advancements in diagnosis and monitoring advancements in prevention and treatment. High scientific profile industry-sponsored workshops are also welcome.

Finally, the Heine-Medin, the Gardner Lecture, the Abbott Diagnostic and the BioMérieux awards will be assigned during the Meeting.

Stresa, on the Western Lake Maggiore coast, the second largest Italian lake (212 sq. km), is situated in Northern Italy, in an ideal position between mountains and the shores of Borromean Gulf. Its beautiful countryside, mild climate, luxury villas and opulent Art Nouveau hotels made the town of Stresa a blend of relaxation and culture in an enchanting setting that evokes the atmosphere of the belle époque. Charles Dickens was only one of many famous people who enjoyed some time spent in Stresa through its history. Also Stendhal and Flaubert have often walked on Stresa’s beach, and Ernest Hemingway wrote his masterpiece A Farewell to Arms here. Lord Byron as well as an infinite list of European kings and queens chose Stresa as a halting place during their Grand Tours. From Stresa it is easy to reach the three Borromean Islands, which are steeped in artistic, historical and botanical appeal. On the islands of Bella and Madre there are sumptuous palaces and rare plant gardens where peacocks, parrots and pheasants roam wild against an exotic backdrop reminiscent of faraway lands. In contrast, the Isola dei Pescatori is famous for the charming simplicity of its old fishing village, which is considered one of the most picturesque spots on Lake Maggiore.

Looking forward to welcoming you in Stresa in September 2017,

Fausto Baldanti
Javier Buesa
MEETING COMMITTEES

CONGRESS PRESIDENT
Fausto Baldanti
Department of Clinical, Surgical, Diagnostic and Pediatric Sciences, University of Pavia, Pavia, Italy
Molecular Virology Unit, Microbiology and Virology Dept., Fondazione IRCCS Policlinico San Matteo Pavia, Italy

CONGRESS ORGANISING COMMITTEE
Antonio Piralla (Pavia, Italy)
Carlo Federico Perno (Roma, Italy)
Fausto Baldanti (Pavia, Italy)
Guido Antonelli (Roma, Italy)
Luisa Barzon (Padova, Italy)
Pasquale Ferrante (Milano, Italy)
Rossana Cavallo (Torino, Italy)
Sandro Binda (Milano, Italy)
Tiziana Lazzarotto (Bologna, Italy)

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME COMMITTEE
Fausto Baldanti (Italy)
Elisabeth Puchhammer-Stöckl (Austria)
Giorgio Gallinella (Italy)
Hans H. Hirsch (Switzerland)
Heli Harvala (United Kingdom)
Hubert Nieters (The Netherlands)
Javier Buesa (Spain)
Marcus Panning (Germany)
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Maria Rosaria Capobianchi (Italy)
Mariet Feltkamp (The Netherlands)
Pamela Vallely (United Kingdom)
Paulo Paixão (Portugal)
Peter Coyle (United Kingdom)
Svein Arne Nordbo (Norway)

CONGRESS ORGANISING SECRETARIAT
MZ Congressi s.r.l.
Via C. Farini, 81
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E.mail: info@escv2017.com

For information on any specific topic, please refer to the following e-mails:

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Scientific programme & speakers:
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Abstracts & Posters
(information only)
Francesca Mazzucchelli
posters@escv2017.com

Registrations:
Francesca Mazzucchelli
registrations@escv2017.com
Congress delegates are invited to submit abstracts of their scientific work for presentation as a free communication at ESCV2017. Abstracts of scientific contributions, covering the field of Clinical Virology in broader sense are welcome. These will be selected for Oral Communication or Poster for display.

**ABSTRACT TOPICS**
1. Respiratory viruses
2. Gastrointestinal viruses
3. Virus-associated neurologic syndromes
4. Virus-associated tumors
5. Hepatitis viruses
6. HIV and other retroviruses
7. Viruses in immunocompromised pts
8. Viral infections in pregnancy
9. Emerging viruses
10. Immune response to viral infections
11. Advancements in diagnosis and Monitoring advancements in prevention and treatment

**GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**
The text must be clear, concise, and written in proper English. The content must not have been previously published in academic journals or subject to peer review. Significant technical information must not be withheld. Abstracts must absolutely contain results. Statements such as “results will be discussed” are not acceptable and will lead to rejection.

**STRUCTURE OF THE ABSTRACT**
Abstracts can be structured and may include:
- **BACKGROUND:** a brief introduction stating the purpose of the investigation and its relevance to laboratory medicine;
- **METHODS:** a description of the methodology used;
- **RESULTS:** to be supported by statistical or other evidence to show their validity;
- **CONCLUSIONS:** The body of the abstract must not exceed 2300 characters, spaces included.

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

*Submission deadline: May 30th, 2017 18:30 CET.*

Confirmation of receipt: Receipt of the abstract will be acknowledged by e-mail immediately after submission.

Notification of acceptance or rejection: Authors will be notified of acceptance or rejection after 20 June 2017.

Registration: The presenting author of each abstract must register for the congress.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**
Abstract authors are asked to indicate the most suitable topic for presentation of their work and will also be asked whether they wish apply for an oral communication during the scientific session. In that case, authors must also select the scientific session in which they would like to give their presentation.
BY CAR
Stresa can easily be reached by car via the highway Milano-Laghi (A8) or Genova-Voltri-Sempione (A26). The exit is the same in both ways: Carpugnino-Stresa.

BY TRAIN
Located on the main railway line, Stresa can be easily reached by train from Milan’s Central Station, Gallarate, Arona or Domodossola. It takes about an hour from Milan’s Central Station to Stresa. Stresa railway station is located in Via Carducci, just 5 minutes walk from the Convention Centre.

BY PLANE
Stresa is 45 Km from the international airport of Milan Malpensa and 95 Km from the airport Milan Linate. From Milan Linate to Stresa you can take the shuttle (conducted by the ATM) for Milan’s Central station (25 minutes) and then carry on by train. From the Milano Malpensa Airport you will be able to take a bus - “Alibus service” - that will connect you to Stresa (and vice-versa). For more information click here: http://www.safduemila.com/files/ALIBUS-INFO-2016-ENGLISH-2016.3.15-.pdf

CONGRESS VENUE
The ESCV 2017 Congress will be held at the STRESA Convention Center, located in one of the most spectacular lake setting in Italy.

STRESA Convention Center
Piazzale Europa, 3
28838 Stresa (VB) Italy
http://www.stresacc.it

HOW TO REACH STRESA CONVENTION CENTER
There are many different and easy ways to reach the congress venue...
LANGUAGE
The official language of the Congress will be English. There will be no simultaneous translation.

NAME BADGE
A name badge will be required for access to the conference area. Participants will receive a name badge when they check in at the registration desk. It must be worn at all times.

CME EUROPEAN CREDITS
The ESCV 2017 will be accredited by the European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (EACCME). Each medical specialist should claim only those hours of credit that he/she actually spent in the educational activity. The UEMS-EACCME credits must be requested at the congress reception desk when registering.
To apply for the UEMS-EACCME credits you will need to fill out an evaluation form and sign an attendance book/scan your badge at the registration desk.
Before asking for the UEMS-EACCME credits please check with your national health authority whether the CME credits are accepted in your country.
The UEMS-EACCME® has mutual recognition agreements with the American Medical Association (AMA) for live events and e-learning materials and with the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada for live events only.
Information on the process to convert EACCME credit to AMA credit can be found at www.ama-assn.org/go/internationalcme.
For more information, please visit www.uems.net

Stresa has a lot to offer in the way of attractions.
Both in and around the town, visitors can discover fascinating and often less crowded places to visit. If you are a nature lover you will be able to wander through the zoological park at Villa Pallavicino and meet the many animals that live there, such as wallabies, zebras, monkeys, llamas, fallow deer and goats and much more. Botanists will delight in the fine alpine plant specimens at the Alpinia gardens, and climbing enthusiasts will not want to miss the panoramic view of the lakes and Alps from the summit of Mount Mottarone. A gentle stroll along the waterfront overlooking the Borromeo Islands is the perfect way to relax in the evenings.

Climate
Stresa’s territory can be divided into four beautiful parts which can be associated with our four seasons. For each season we thought of matching the parts of the territory and suggesting different and exciting activities in order for you to have fun while appreciating our view.

During our beautiful Summer breeze, we would like to offer you a lovely tour of the insular part which consists of the three Borromeo Islands: Isola Bella, Isola Madre and Isola Pescatori. They are all beautiful and unique in their own way. The islands of Bella and Madre were transformed into grand, luxurious residences, while the third island, named “dei Pescatori”, has been a fishing community for centuries and its community still preserves their traditional way of life.
All delegates must register for the congress. Registration fees are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Early Registration (until 30 June 2017)</th>
<th>Late Registration (from 1 July 2017)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ESCV Members</td>
<td>450 €</td>
<td>550 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non ESCV Members</td>
<td>550 €</td>
<td>650 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students/Research assistants/Trainees</td>
<td>360 €</td>
<td>460 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retired ESCV Members</td>
<td>250 €</td>
<td>300 €</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Registration Fee includes:
- Entrance to Opening Ceremony, Gardner Lecture, Scientific Sessions, industry-sponsored workshops, posters sessions and exhibition
- Possibility to submit abstracts
- Certificate of attendance
- Welcome Reception on the first evening
- Coffee and tea service during morning intermissions
- Lunches during the Congress

Note: Registration in the STUDENT category is only open to people able to provide a valid official certificate. To validate this, documentary proof of this status must be forwarded to the e-mail: registrations@escv2017.com

SOCIAL PROGRAMME TICKETS not included in the registration fees.

**Tour of the Borromean Islands** *(Isola Pescatori and Isola Bella)*

Thursday, 14 September 2017

Delegates Euro 30 per person (vat included)
Accompanying persons and exhibitors Euro 45 per person (vat included)

**Social Dinner**

Friday, 15 September 2017
Regina Palace Hotel - Corso Umberto I n. 29
Stresa (VB) Italy

Reduced fee Euro 50 per person (vat included)

**TRANSFER SERVICE** not included in the registration fees.

**Transfer Service from Stresa Convention Center to Milano Piazza Castello**

Saturday, 16 September 2017 at the end of the Congress

Euro 15 per person (vat included)

If you have already booked your tickets, through the online registration system, you will find them inside your congress badge. Please present the tickets on the boat, at the entrance of the Regina Palace Hotel and to the staff on the bus.

**REMITTANCE**

Registration fees shall be paid by credit card or bank transfer through the on-line system available on the congress web site.

When paying by bank transfer, a copy of the transfer receipt must be sent at registrations@escv2017.com.

Registrations without proof of payment will not be accepted. On-site registrations may be paid only by credit card or cash. Cheques will not be accepted. The organising secretariat will send registration receipt upon receipt of payment, via e-mail. Be sure your e-mail address is filled in correctly.
PERSONAL INVITATION FOR VISA PURPOSES
To facilitate congress attendance a personal invitation can be sent on request. This invitation does not exempt the recipient from registering and paying the proper congress fee. Please inform the congress secretariat if you need a personal invitation letter.

CURRENCY
Registration fees and charges for all events related to the ESCV 2017 Congress as well as hotel cost must be paid in euros.

CANCELLATION AND REFUND
Cancellations must be sent in writing to registrations@escv2017.com. The amount equal to 80% of the fee paid will be refunded for cancellations received by 30 May 2017. Until 30 June, 2017 a refund of 50% of the fee will be granted. After 30 June 2017 no refunds will be issued. All refunds will be paid in euros after the congress.

CANCELLATION OF THE CONGRESS
The congress secretariat reserves the right to cancel the congress, shift venue, or change dates without notice, in case of “force majeure”. Neither MZ Congressi nor the Congress Organising Committee shall be liable for any damage claims.

LIABILITY AND INSURANCE
Registration fees do not include the insurance of participants against personal accidents, sickness and cancellations by any party, theft, loss or damage to personal possessions. Participants are advised to take out adequate personal insurance to cover travel, accommodation, cancellation and personal effects. Registration can be submitted on-line only.

For your hotel reservation in Stresa, please note that MiCODMC has been appointed by the European Society for Clinical Virology as Official Housing Bureau of the 20th Annual Meeting of the ESCV.

For any information and/or reservation please contact:

P.le Carlo Magno 1 - 20149 Milan – Italy
Tel. +39 02 87255039– Fax +39 02 43426274
e-mail: escv2017.hotel@micodmc.it

Due the limited room availability, we do advise you to make your reservation as early as possible in order to have the best choice of available hotels. Hotel accommodation is subject to availability and will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATION FOR INDIVIDUAL PARTICIPANTS
We have arranged hotel rooms at preferential rates in different price categories for the period of the Congress in hotels close to Congress Venue and in the city center as well as other areas of the town.

In order to book your room at special conditions, please select your hotel from the list on www.escv2017.com. Once you have chosen your preferred hotel, kindly download, fill in and return the accommodation form by email to escv2017.hotel@micodmc.it.

Your personal details and request will be forwarded to the hotel selected and you will be contacted directly by the hotel to finalize your reservation. Rates shown, payment and cancellation policy are valid only for Escv meeting from 13 to 16 September 2017. Every extra request pre/post congress date is subject to availability and may be subject to different policy.
SOCIAL PROGRAMME

WELCOME RECEPTION

**Wednesday, 13 September 2017**  
**Time:** 19.30 – 21.00  
**Place:** Congress Venue (STRESA Convention Center)

The Welcome Reception is included in the registration fees.  
The Organising Committee and the ESCV have the pleasure to invite you to attend the Welcome Reception.

DISCOVERING THE BORROMEOAN ISLANDS

**Thursday, 14 September 2017**  
**Time:** 17.00 - 20.00  
**Place:** Tour of the Borromean Islands (Isola Pescatori and Isola Bella).

Fee: not included in the registration fee  
Delegates Euro 30 per person (vat included)  
Accompanying persons and exhibitors Euro 45 per person (vat included)  
Including:  
- Boat cruise from/to Stresa with private motorboat in the Borromean Gulf  
- Isola Madre – Isola Pescatori with stop  
- Isola Bella with stop dedicated English speaking guide

**Isola Pescatori** (Fishermen’s Island), or Upper Island because of its more northerly situation than the other islands in the Gulf, is the most picturesque of the Borromean Islands, as well as the only one to be permanently inhabited.  
Distinctive features of its ancient little village are narrow lanes with characteristic two-storey houses, with long balconies traditionally used for drying fish; the island’s inhabitants earn their living mainly by fishing and tourism.

Its unmistakable skyline is punctuated by the pointed spire of the Church of San Vittore, which rises above the red roofs of the houses; its shore is always occupied by the little boats of its fifty residents. It becomes even more atmospheric in the evening, when the whole island is discreetly lit up, a living picture reflected in the calm waters of the lake.

The **Isola Bella** is a natural treasure made even richer by human intervention; it has always been one of the favourite visitor attractions of Lake Maggiore, not to be missed if you want unparalleled views of the lake and its surroundings. Isola Bella is dominated by its sumptuous Baroque palace, along with a luxuriant Italian-style garden, which reaches a height of 37 metres and is laid out on ten terraces.
The garden is full of flowers and exotic plants of great rarity, which grow thanks to the particularly mild climate of the Borromean Gulf. Everything on the island has been designed to create a scenic effect, including the “Theatre” constructed at the end of the superimposed terraces, dominated by a statue of a Unicorn, the heraldic emblem of the Borromeos, which is flanked by statues representing Nature and Art. The huge, extraordinary garden is further decorated with ponds, fountains and a plethora of statues dating from the second half of the 17th century. The white peacocks that wander over the manicured lawns add their grace to this enchanting spot.

SOCIAL DINNER

**Friday, 15 September 2017**

Time: starting from 20.30  
Place: Regina Palace Hotel  
Corso Umberto I n. 29,  
Stresa (VB) Italy  
http://www.reginapalace.it

Join us for a special evening!  
During the night you will have a rich dinner and live music.

**Reduced fee**

Euro 50 per person (vat included)

If you have already booked your tickets, through the online registration system, you will find them inside your congress badge. Please present the tickets on the boat and at the entrance of the venue where we will take dinner.
PROGRAMME

13 SEPTEMBER

14.30 - 15.00 Opening Ceremony

15.00 - 16.30 Session: Respiratory viruses
15.00 - 15.30 H.G.M. Niesters (NL) “Update on Enterovirus D68 epidemics in Europe”
15.30 - 16.30 4 selected oral presentations
16.30 - 17.00 Gardner Lecture
17.00 - 17.30 Coffee break and poster viewing

17.30 - 19.00 Session: Emerging viruses
17.30 - 18.00 L. Barzon (IT) “Ongoing and emerging Arbovirus threats”
18.00 - 19.00 4 selected oral presentations
20.00 Welcome reception at the venue of the Congress - Presentation of the 21th ESCV

14 SEPTEMBER

08.30 - 10.00 Session: Viruses in immunocompromised patients
08.30 - 09.00 Hirsch HH (CH) “Opportunistic viral infections beyond herpesviruses”
09.00 - 10.00 4 selected oral presentations
10.00 - 10.30 Abbott award lecture
10.30 - 11.00 Coffee break and poster viewing
11.00 - 12.30 Session: Hepatitis viruses
11.00 - 11.30 CF Perno (IT) “HCV in the DAA era”
11.30 - 12.30 4 selected oral presentations
12.30 - 14.45 Lunch, Sponsored Workshops
15.00 - 16.30 Session: HIV and other Retroviruses
15.00 - 15.30 Jose M. Gatell (ES) “Long term control of HIV infection: perspectives and challenges”
15.30 - 16.30 4 selected oral presentations
17.00 - 20.00 Tour of the Borromean Islands

15 SEPTEMBER

08.30 - 10.00 Session: Virus-associated tumors
08.30 - 09.00 Mario Poljak (SLO) “HPV malignancies beyond cervical cancer. An universal vaccination approach required?”
09.00 - 10.00 4 selected oral presentations
10.00 - 10.30 BioMerieux award lecture
10.30 - 11.00 Coffee break and poster viewing
11.00 - 12.30 Session: Immune response to viral infections
11.00 - 11.30 A. Lanzavecchia (CH) “Broadly neutralizing antibodies, a new therapeutic possibility”
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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>11.30 - 12.30</td>
<td>4 selected oral presentations</td>
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<td>12.30 - 14.45</td>
<td>Lunch, Sponsored Workshops</td>
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<td><strong>15.00 - 16.30</strong></td>
<td><strong>Session: Virus-associated neurologic syndromes</strong></td>
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<td>15.00 - 15.30</td>
<td>Heli Harvala (UK) “Viral infections of the central and peripheral nervous system”</td>
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<td>15.30 - 16.30</td>
<td>4 selected oral presentations including the HeineMedin Award</td>
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<td>16.30 - 17.00</td>
<td>Coffee break and poster viewing</td>
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<td><strong>17.00 - 18.30</strong></td>
<td><strong>Session: Gastrointestinal viruses</strong></td>
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<td>17.00 - 17.30</td>
<td>Javier Buesa (ES) “Human migrations, susceptibility and gastrointestinal viruses”</td>
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<td>17.30 - 18.30</td>
<td>4 selected oral presentations</td>
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<tr>
<td>18.30 - 19.30</td>
<td>ESCV General Assembly</td>
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<td>20.30</td>
<td>Social dinner</td>
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**16 SEPTEMBER**
(Joint session with AMCLI - Association of Italian Clinical Microbiologists)

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>09.30 - 10.55</strong></td>
<td><strong>Session: Viral infections in pregnancy</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>09.30 - 09.50</td>
<td>M. Zavattoni (IT) “Zika virus infection in pregnant women”</td>
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<tr>
<td>09.50 - 10.10</td>
<td>Christelle Valloup (FR) “Standardization of Rubella Virus Immunoassays”</td>
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<td>10.10 - 10.55</td>
<td>3 selected oral presentations</td>
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<td><strong>11.00 - 12.25</strong></td>
<td><strong>Session: Advancements in diagnosis, monitoring and treatment</strong></td>
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<td>11.00 - 11.20</td>
<td>George Sourvinos (GR) “miRNAs, new markers in Clinical Virology?”</td>
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<td>11.20 - 11.40</td>
<td>Judith Aberle (A) “Determining T-cell immune responses to flaviviruses”</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.40 - 12.25</td>
<td>3 selected oral presentations</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Open coffee</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.30 - 13.00</td>
<td>Closing Ceremony</td>
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**ESCV Executive meeting:** September 13  h10.00-14.00
**ESCV Council meeting:** September 13  h19.00-20.00
**ESCV General Assembly:** September 15  h18.30-19.30