

Minutes of the General Assembly of the EORS

31st Annual Meeting

Date: 28 September 2023, 17:00-18.31 WEST

Location: Alfândega do Porto Congress Center, Porto, PT

Members of the Executive Committee

President:	Holger Jahr
1 st Vice President:	Boyko Gueorguiev
2 nd Vice President:	Eduardo García-Rey
Secretary General:	Gabriela Graziani
Treasurer:	Stijn Bolink
Past president:	Gianluca Vadalà

1. Opening of the General Assembly

EORS President Holger Jahr opens the General Assembly (GA) by presenting the agenda of this year: 1) Welcome from the President, 2) Approval of the minutes of the previous General Assembly (Edinburgh 2022, attached), 3) Report of the President, 4) Report of the Secretary: year-in-review, 5) Report of the Treasurer, 6) Discharge of the Treasurer, 7) EORS membership: fees and benefits, 8) EORS initiatives and awards, 9) Next EORS meetings and call for future applications, 10) Other topics, 11) Closure of the General Assembly.

2. Approval of last GA minutes

The minutes of the last GA, held Thursday, 8th September 2022 Start: 12.30, End: 3.30 p.m. (Local Time Edinburgh, GMT+1), are presented and accepted without objection or abstention. The President asks the audience if any additional points should be added to the agenda, without response.

3. Report by the President

Holger Jahr introduces the Agenda to the Audience, and the current Executive Committee 2022-2024 and thanks all for their support.

Ex-Officios members and Ambassadors.

He specially thanks our current Ex-Officio members: Young Investigator (Luca Ambrosio), Social Media (Girish Pattappa), Equal Representation (Elizabeth Balmayor, Federica Masieri), Training and Education (Laura Saldana, Fabrizio Russo), Awards (Holger Jahr, Gabriela Graziani, Gianluca Vadalà), Sponsoring (Stijn Bolink).

Ambassadors are also acknowledged, and newly nominated ambassadors introduced: EORS Ambassador for Austria, Sylvia Nürnberger; EORS Ambassador for Finland, Michael Gasik; EORS Ambassador for France, Jerome Guicheux; EORS Ambassador for Germany, Britt Wildemann; EORS Ambassador for Greece, Maria Chatzinikolaidou; EORS Ambassador for Ireland, Dimitrios Zeugolis; EORS Ambassador for Italy, Julietta V. Rau; EORS Ambassador for the Netherlands, Martijn van Griensven; EORS Ambassador for Portugal, Manuela E. Gomes; EORS Ambassador for Romania, Julian Vasile Antoniac; EORS Ambassador for Taiwan, Feng-Sheng Wang; EORS Ambassador for Turkey, Fehmi Volkan Öztuna.

He describes the role and requirements for Ambassadors and encourages to apply or nominate colleagues through email at eors.secretariat@gmail.com.

Call for hosting the future conferences

The call for hosting the upcoming congresses is also open. The president describes the application procedure and how to present candidacy.

ICORS representatives

ICORS steering committee is presented: Bernd Grimm I-CORS President (EORS), Gun-Il Im I-CORS Past President (KORS), Hamish Simpson I-CORS President-Elect (BORS), Brian Johnstone Chair FIOR, ORS, Geoff Richards, Past-Chair FIOR (AO Foundation), Sharon Smith-Terry Secretary (ORS) + 2 members of each national member society. Holger Jahr and Boyko Gueorguiev serve as ICORS representatives for EORS. The steering committee regularly meets through video conferences and in person at the ORS annual meeting.

Holger Jahr and Boyko Gueorguiev, participated regularly in the ICORS video conference meetings and actively contribute to, among others, the preparations for ICORS 2025.

EORS Current FIORs @ ICORS

The President thanks our FIORs (currently 12) for their service and support to the society: Nicola Baldini, Denitsa Docheva, Richie Gill, Enrique Gomez-Barrena, Bernd Grimm, Thomas Grupp, Geoff Richards, Klemens Trieb, Catherine Van Der Straeten, Nico Verdonschot, Britt Wildemann, Dimitrios Zeugolis

EORS @ ICORS 2022

ICORS 2022 has been characterized by a rich scientific programme and high attendance. It featured 5 Lecture Theatres, 36 Free Paper Sessions, 8 Clinical Bridge Sessions, 23 Workshops, 9 Keynote sessions. During the meeting, an EORS-ON collaborative session on musculoskeletal regeneration was organized with distinguished speakers, which included the EFORT-President (2022-2023) Enrique Gomes-Barrena and OARSI Past-President (2022 - 2024) Ali Mobasheri.

EORS @ ORS 2023, Dallas

EORS representatives have participated to the ICORS Steering Committee, where Manuela Gomes advertised the upcoming congress in Porto. A ON Network Dinner was organized, where Holger Jahr, Manuela Gomes and Bea Sais participated for the EORS.

Gabriela Graziani organized and chaired the well-attended symposium “New Biomaterials & Technologies in spine surgery”, where Gianluca Vadalà served as invited speaker.

EORS @ EFORT 2023, Vienna

EORS organized a booth at the congress, to promote current and future initiatives and increase membership. The board has participated to the abstract review process, and to several initiatives and sessions in the congress, including EORS-endorsed Special Society Session, “FP Biomechanics & Methodology” session with interesting contributions on AI in orthopaedic surgery and “Bone Healing: New Insights In Healing Mechanisms Of Bone, Cartilage And Soft Tissues” with participation from industry.

EORS became a member of the EFORT Education Committee (2023-2025).

EFORT discontinued our annual compensation for organizing sister society sessions, however, EORS will continue contributing Special Society Symposia to EFORT (2024-2026). The organization of the booth will be discussed on a yearly basis.

EORS and TERMIS-EU

The societies signed a Memorandum “[..seeking to improve understanding and exchange between academic societies and to establish mutually beneficial collaboration for the benefit of their members [..]” as a first step towards achieving shared goals.

EORS – ESB session at ESB 2023

Gabriela Graziani has organized a joint EORS-ESB session “EORS-ESB clinical bridge symposium: unmet challenges and new biomaterials in the spine” at the 33rd Annual Conference of the European Society for Biomaterials, held on September 6th 2023 (co-organizer and co-chair prof. Silvia Fare’, ESB treasurer, keynote speakers: prof. Makarand Risbud, prof. Anna Tampieri).

EORS and NETWOARK (and future EUSOA society)

The EORS President emphasizes the growing collaboration between EORS and NetwoArk, which include a dedicated symposium at EORS 2023.

4. Report by the General Secretary

EORS Board regular activities

Gabriela Graziani reports that monthly video conferences were held during this year, and updated the audience on EORS Newsletter & social media, and EORS digital archive.

One large Telco and one live meeting were organized on May 4th and September 27th 2023, bringing together EORS’ Ex-officios and Ambassadors with excellent feedback and participation.

EORS Porto

Gabriela Graziani presents the activities of the ExCom during the site visit in Porto (January 27th 2023), then the main data regarding Porto congress.

The congress had 510 registrations, from 45 countries and featured 12 international orthopaedic research societies. South Korea was the guest nation and was represented by a keynote by Gun Il Kim.

6 other plenary talks and 35 keynote talks were held.

ON Foundation and EORS

EORS thanks On foundation for providing several awards, including 10 ON/EORS Education Grants for travel support (€ 500), the ON Orthoregeneration Research Award (€ 1,000 best “Orthoregeneration paper” presented at the EORS Congress), and the Kick-Starter Grant (joint session and CHF 10,000 for the winning presentation). An EORS & ON Symposium was also organized at the EORS’ Annual Meeting.

EORS webinar series

EORS new webinars are well received by the membership, reflected by a high attendance rate (40-50 participants per webinar). Gabriela Graziani, on behalf of the board, expresses especially thanks the organizers of the webinars series (Luca Ambrosio, Girish Pattapa, Fabrizio Russo). Next series of monthly webinars will be announced soon. Propose your ideas by emailing webinar@eors.info.

Young Investigator session and event in Porto

The New Investigators are thanked for their active and numerous participation to NI events, which included 2 sessions (“New investigators symposium: entrepreneurship” and “New Investigators special award”). Congratulations are expressed to Simone Castagno, Emanuel Novais, and Christine Strauss for being selected for the special award.

A high attendance (about 80 participants) was also registered at the New Investigators Outreach event, which this year was merged with ON foundation.

Equal representation session

The Equal representation Committee (Elizabeth Rosado Balmayor and Federica Masieri) are thanked for organizing a well-attended session.

EORS Administration

The General Secretary thanks our secretariat, run by Beatriz Sais, for her support with the Website services & newsletters, Membership system management, Events promotion, Financial transactions and Archive organization.

5. Report by the Treasurer

1. Report by the Cash Auditors

Both EORS cash auditors (2022-2023), Ivan Zderic and Gundula Schulze-Tanzil, reviewed the balance sheets and original receipts, and verified completeness of receipts and correctness of the balance. Both proposed to accept the accounting for the year 2023 and to discharge the treasurer.

2. Report by the Treasurer

Balance sheets

EORS Treasurer Stijn Bolink presents the financial balance sheets of EORS since our ICORS 2022 meeting:

EORS Budget 2022-2023

Expenses comprise the EORS YI fees (€ 522,26), symposia (€ 1.279), bank account (€ 171,89), website and zoom events (€ 677,07), lawyer and tax declaration (€ 2.026,41), secretarial work (€3.546,80), EC activities (board registration) (€ 818,26), making it a total of **€ 8.615,11**.

Income was generated through membership fees (€ 4.663,91). The balance during Edinburgh General Assembly was € 20.674 and the balance in September 2023 (Porto GA) was **€ 16.722**.

EORS Estimated Budget 2023-2024

Expenses comprise Travel grants (€ 3000), YI event (€ 500), Bank account (€ 200), Symposia (€1000), administration/secretary (€ 4000), web services and website (€ 1000), lawyer and Tax declaration (€ 5000), (board registration) (€ 5000). Total € 19.700.

Income is generated through membership fees (€ 15.000), sponsoring NI event (€ 500), pending profit ICORS 2022 (€ 15.000) and seed money + expected profit EORS 2023 (€ 10.000). Total: € 40.500.

The expected balance for September 2024 (Aalborg GA) is € 37.522.

6. Discharge of the Treasurer

The Treasurer is discharged.

7. Membership

For details on how to become an EORS member, information is available on our website www.eors.info under the tab "Members". Here, memberships can be started or renewed by paying the membership fee. EORS membership can also be started, or renewed, simply by registering to the EORS annual meeting. Membership can be opted out by flagging the relevant box during registration.

8. EORS initiatives and awards

Eight awards will be assigned and announced during the closing ceremony: the best overall Oral presentation of the meeting will receive the Edward R. Valstar Award. New Investigators (NI) awards will include: Best Biology NI Oral presentation & NI Poster; Best Biomaterials and Biomechanics NI Oral presentation & NI Poster, Best Clinics NI Oral presentation & NI Poster; EORS 2024 New Investigator Award (500 €, sponsored by Coatings, MDPI).

The president reminds the New Investigators to apply for the EORS and ICORS grants, by checking the deadline and procedure on the EORS website.

He emphasizes the importance of collaborations like the ON Foundation awards and grants. The Education grantees are congratulated, while the other awards will be announced during the closing ceremony.

9. Next EORS meetings and call for future applications

The next EORS meeting will be held in Aalborg and Chaired by Ole Rahbek and Søren Kold, and is presented through a video by the future organizers.

The call for hosting the upcoming congresses is opened. EORS call for 2025 is closing (Oct. 15, 2023), EORS call for 2026 will close in Sept. 2024, EORS call for 2027-2028 will remain open until end of 2024.

10. Other topics

EORS President inquires if any present EORS members wish to discuss additional issues in this General Assembly. No points are raised

11. Closing of the GA

The assembly is officially closed at 18:31 p.m. local time.