



European Society of Paediatric Endoscopic Surgeons
Founded in London 2010

ESPEs

18th August, 2022. Bellinzona, Switzerland

PRESIDENTIAL LETTER

Dear ESPES members,
Dear colleagues and friends,

A new fall season is approaching and another administrative ESPES year is ending. This first half of 2022 year has been a progressively return to our normal life after the Pandemic international restrictions this has allowed us in ESPES, to continue to achieve our main objectives with great success.

As usual I will briefly update you on these objectives:

- a) The second edition of the ESPES virtual LAP (Laparoscopy African Project) Master in pediatric MIS from 14th January until 8th July concluded with success 12 bilingual sessions (French and English) 3 hours each. Around 200 participants per each session from different African and Post-Soviet countries, as well as from India attended the course. This was possible thanks to the support of several experts in pediatric MIS from ESPES, from the African Society of Pediatric Surgery, from the WOFAPS and from the All India Institute of Medical Sciences. The exam of the course will take place during the XII ESPES Congress in Barcelona, Spain. Special thanks also to Professor Ciro Esposito and the Cardarelli Institute of Naples for the technical and financial support of this Masterclass.
- b) Thanks to the continuous support and collaboration with IRCAD and Prof. Jacques Marescaux we held on April 27th the 2nd ESPES Virtual Advanced Course on Pediatric MIS. The topics were related to MIS in esophageal atresia, congenital diaphragmatic hernia, non-palpable testes, pilonidal sinus and MIS/Robotics in pediatric urology. There were 109 participants from 35 nationalities around the world.
- c) The financial status of our Society continues to be in excellent health and this is possible thanks to the great organization/administration of our treasurer Professor Salvatore Fabio Chiarenza and the supportive team (Mrs. Annie Claude Plisson-Bruyere and Dr. Cosimo Bleve). The ESPES members continue to increase, this year we have reached almost 1256 registrations in our website from all around the world. Our ESPES Website is continuously updated thanks to the great job of our webmaster Professor Jozef Babala.
- d) We will be very proud to host in September 28th -30th, 2022 our XII ESPES Annual Congress in the "World Trade Center" in Barcelona, Spain. This congress will include some interesting innovations. Besides the basic Hands-on course for trainees we have added an advanced pre-congress Hands-on Workshop concentrated only in MIS esophageal atresia, with some of the main international experts in this domain as faculties. We have also included a SPEEDDATING EXPERT LUNCH, a place where trainees and young surgeons can meet and

chat with some international experts in pediatric MIS. We guarantee a very attractive scientific program with several interesting pre-congress courses, Round Tables and Keynote Lectures. I thank Prof. Marta De Diego and her team as well as all EB members, our administrative secretary and the industrial sponsoring for organizing this Congress

Very soon you will receive the Minutes of the XI General Assembly (Lugano, Switzerland) and the agenda for the next GA. I would like to remind you that only full paid-active ESPES members will be allowed to participate in the XII General Assembly in Barcelona.

During the GA I will transfer the lead of the Society to my successor and great friend Professor Juan De Agustin from Spain and initiate my mandate as Past President to continue to support him and the ESPES EB. I would like to say that it was an honour and a privilege to represent ESPES as a President during these past 2 years. I had the opportunity to meet and to collaborate with great colleagues and friends on behalf of our Society. Moreover, this experience allowed me to continue to growth in my personal and professional life. The success of this experience could not have been possible without the support, collaboration and friendship of all members of the past and the actual Executive Board (Maria Grazia Scuderi, Naziah Khen Dunlop, Carlos Gine, Sameh Shehata, Laurent Fourcade, Alexey Gusev), in particular our H. Secretary Maud Lindeboom, our Treasurer Salvatore Fabio Chiarenza, our CEO Ciro Esposito, our Webmaster Jozef Babala, our administrative Secretary Annie-Claude Plisson-Bruyere and our former Presidents Henri Steyaert, Philippe Montupet and Azad Najmaldin. I thank very much everyone for their advices, support, trust and great team-work; it was a pleasure to work with each one of them.

We can continue to be happy, eager, enthusiastic and grateful for our Society!

“We are ESPES”

Sincerely,



Mario Mendoza Sagaon
ESPES President

