

The 18th European Congress of Trauma and Emergency Surgery between Past and Future

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Romanian Society for Trauma and Emergency Surgery and European Society for Trauma and Emergency Surgery had a strong cooperation for many years. In the last 5 years in Romania, Carol Davila University of Medicine and Pharmacy developed an international center for training for trauma and emergency surgery. Many surgeons from all Europe came here and they enjoyed the opportunities discovered for training.

Romanian Society for Trauma and Emergency Surgery in strong cooperation with Romanian Society of Surgery had the honor to organize on 7th - 9th May the European Congress for Trauma and Emergency Surgery. In Bucharest we also celebrated this year also the 10th Anniversary of the formation of ESTES. Since the original merger of EATES and ETS it has gone from strength to strength. That merger created a powerful synergy that has been built on over the years to create one of the world's foremost surgical societies.

More than 1.000 delegates from around 80 countries all around the world came together to discuss the care of injured and acutely ill surgical patients. Under the motto "Give and take, Share your experience", a diversified scientific program presented a wide range of opportunities for the participants to get information for daily practice. We had a distinguished international faculty, more than 100 instructional lectures and were lead 26 keynote sessions, 20 instructional course lectures and one consensus statement. More than 200 scientific papers and 459 posters were presented. The meeting covered a wide variety of topics such as Damage Control Principles, Acute Care Surgery, Peritonitis, Management of Colonic Obstruction, Vascular Injuries, Acute Management of Pancreatic Injury and



Disease, Polytrauma, Trauma Systems, Collective Burn Injuries, Multiple Fractures, Pelvic Injury and many others. Instructional lecture courses, keynote sessions, case presentations and poster sessions presented the state of the art in emergency and trauma surgery. Also, the EBSQ trauma surgery examination as well as the emergency surgery examination exam was organized before the meeting. Furthermore, several pre-congress courses were organized such as the European Mass Casualty Incident Course (ECMI), the Modular Ultra Sound Estes Course (MUSEC) and the Polytrauma course.

Together with fine music, drinks and snacks, the participants, new honorary members and congress grant winners of this year's congress were cordially welcomed at the Parliament Congress Center in Bucharest. As a meeting point for European surgeons, where could be more appropriate than Romania which, located midway between the Atlantic coast and the Ural Mountains, lies in the middle of Europe?

Romanian Society for Trauma and emergency surgery organized a welcome reception with traditional Romanian dishes.

During the sessions it was time for discussion to share knowledge. The networking events provided opportunities for renewing contacts and exchanging experiences between colleagues from all over the world. We are very grateful that so many experienced and young colleagues in Romania supported the organization of this powerful event by investing a lot of time and effort.

Many participants stated that one of their personal highlights of this year's congress was

the Official Congress Evening held at the Romanian Athenaeum. In this beautiful location, the delegates enjoyed not only a savory traditional meal with local wines and built networks for the future patient care, but specially a unique combination of modern and classic music.

The congress finished with the closing ceremony on Tuesday afternoon, where awards were given for the best posters and best oral paper presentations.

Finally, it was time for the traditional handover of the Congress Medal from Congress President Mircea Beuran to Isidro Martinez, ESTES Congress President 2018, as well as a short look ahead to next year's congress, which will take place in Valencia. Furthermore, it was time for the traditional handover of the Society baton from Jonathan Tilsed to Marius Keel, incoming ESTES President

We would like to thank Jonathan Tilsed, the president of ECTES and Pol M Rommens,



The prize for all career: Abe Fingerhut and Jonathan Tilsed



Honorary Member - Selman Uranues and Jonathan Tilsed



The prize for all career: Pol M Rommensand and Jonathan Tilsed

the general secretary of ESTES. We can't forget our friends who were always available with a good advice and help for us: Selman Uranues, Abe Fingerhut, Hayato Kurihara, Ari Lepaniemi and many others who contributed to this event.

At the end we can conclude that it was a successful event and we received excellent feedbacks from participants.

Now ESTES 10th anniversary is passed and also our congress. It is time not only to look back at the achievements of this years, it is time to look ahead to the next decade. We have been privileged to visit and work with a

number of colleagues through ESTES. We are aware of the problems in trauma and emergency surgery but we believe we can learn from each other and find new and strong solutions. Communication is the cornerstone of an effective Society and I hope that we will be able to make the most of the opportunities presented by modern technologies. We can be proud that Romania has now a strong position in ESTES. We can be proud that many Romanians were very well appreciated for their works during the congress, but we should have the power to ask what we need for our patients to the government.