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## Mythical Istanbul becomes reality with the scientific kick-off meeting for the EFORT Congress 2013



### 14th EFORT Congress 2013 Istanbul, Turkey: 05-08 June 2013

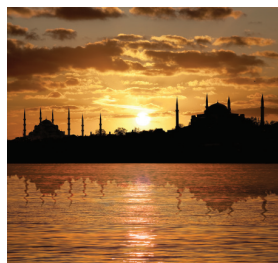
EFORT's scientific kick-off meetings are held two years in advance of the annual meetings. The purpose is to decide the scientific programme, its highlights, and also the social venues.

The kick-off meeting for the Istanbul 2013 EFORT Congress was held from 1 – 3 September 2011 in Istanbul. It was chaired by Pierre Hoffmeyer, the EFORT President 2012/2013.

The Scientific Committee was led by Enric Caceres Palou, who is its Chairman, and Hakki Sur, the Local Organising Committee Chairman. This meeting assembled the leaders of Specialty Societies, led by George Macheras. They included the incoming president of EPOS, the General Secretary of EuroSpine, the past President of EFOT, the Vice-President of ESSKA, trauma specialists, and many other distinguished faculty.

Per Kjaersgaard-Andersen, the former Scientific Committee Chairman and Local Chair-

man for the highly successful Copenhagen Congress, presented very useful computerised feedback data from congress attendees. This illustrated the most successful topics of the past, the topics the attendees wanted to see repeated, the issues that have never been addressed, and those on the waiting list.



There was a very lively and clearly presented discussion in which every participant made an important contribution to the scientific programme. The result is a schedule which is

certain to attract orthopaedic surgeons to the Istanbul Congress in large numbers.

Haemophilia, infected fractures, the prevention of osteoporosis, meniscal and ligament injuries, modern treatments in spine trauma, metatarsalgia, tribology in knee and hip arthroplasty, Dupuytren contracture, and early osteoarthritis and its management, will be among the highlight topics.

Overall, 24 Symposia, 23 Instructional Lectures, six Complex Case Discussions, six Interactive Expert Exchanges, seven Debate Forums, two Evidence-Based Medicine Sessions and two guest lectures will be organised by renowned faculty from across Europe.

As Istanbul offers a bridge between Europe, the Middle East and Asia, mixing the fabulous cultures and histories of all these continents, this 2013 Congress will no doubt attract a mix of European, Eastern and Asian orthopaedic surgeons, most of whom will not

even need a visa to enter Turkey.

It was also decided that the social venues should be full of history and oriental charm. We can assure you that EFORT's traditional Istanbul Night will be unforgettable!



Please keep 5 – 8 June 2013 free in your diary to immerse yourself in top orthopaedic science, as well as Istanbul's enchanting oriental culture and history.

Author

Prof. Hakki Sur  
LO Chairman 14th EFORT Congress 2013

## Looking Back on my Presidency 2010/2011



Prof. Miklós Szendrői

My career at EFORT started a good 6 years before I became President, with an unexpected call from Professor Böhler, asking me to contribute to the work of the Executive Committee. "These will be very busy years for you," he said, "but you can represent the Eastern European colleagues in our organisation, and get a real overview of what is happening in European orthopaedics today." That is precisely what happened. Although I previously served as a delegate to both SECOT and EFORT, my new and developing role gave me the opportunity to really understand the vision and mission of a fast-growing organisation.

In time, I became part of EFORT's leadership team. One of the most satisfying aspects of work within the Presidential Line is the opportunity for regular exchange with others, including the Executive Committee, the Managing Director and Head Office. It is this structure that offers EFORT a core of continuity and stability in times of growth.

Our Congresses are tangible evidence of the growth of our organisation. Profes-

sor Thorngren was in office when the decision was taken to hold Congresses annually. In response to the increasing demand, this change of frequency from biennial to annual has proven to be the right step as it has helped to establish EFORT as a truly European training platform with a global outreach.

The steadily increasing number of participants and abstracts attracted by our Congresses (more than 3000, and as many as 3900 for the Berlin Congress!) demonstrates that we are meeting a real need in the European orthopaedic community. Furthermore, up to a fifth of Congress participants now come from outside Europe.

Meanwhile, we have tightened up the organisational structure for our Congresses, with a full-scale Science Committee. Representatives of the major specialty societies, national associations, and local organisers all contribute to the scientific programme. The programme has evolved around our popular core sessions to include features such as comprehensive review courses and EFORT's Honorary Lectures. Some 85% of participants now agree that the sessions we offer meet their training needs.

In the future, EFORT will concentrate on two main goals: we will achieve our mission and vision by becoming a point of reference in musculoskeletal diseases and injuries, and by raising awareness of musculoskeletal topics at the EU and global level and across European patient organisations. Our role as a point of reference focuses on driving the scientific agenda, harmonising training and treatment, encouraging knowledge exchange

and performing with a high level of integrity. To raise awareness at the EU and global level, as well as across European patient organisations, we will be collaborating closely with our member network.

The EBOT exam, as the common result of both set goals, will be promoted and will influence the drafting of training curricula aimed at establishing a common level among the variety of training approaches that currently exists around Europe.

Our publications are another important part of our training activities. The first volume of our journal, *European Orthopaedics and Traumatology (EOTR)*, appeared at the EFORT Congress in Madrid. We have also published the first books in the EFORT book series: "Tribology in total hip arthroplasty" (Ed. K. Knahr), "Non-idiopathic spine deformities in young children" (Ed. M. Yazici), and "Eurohip" (Eds. K. Dreinhöfer, P. Dieppe, K-P. Günther, W. Puhl).

These are just some of the activities that have gained EFORT growing recognition and respect throughout the world. We maintain good relations with AAOS, and with regional and national societies from Latin America, north Africa, and the Middle and Far East. Each year, we receive new applications for EFORT Associate Scientific Membership, and we are now invited to attend and speak at more congresses than we can attend. While EFORT's "home" remains Europe, our activities will continue to reach out beyond its boundaries.

As I become your past President, I would



SAVE THE DATE

**Next EFORT Congress**

Berlin,  
23 - 25 May 2012

Early registration deadline:  
▶ 30 January 2012

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like to thank my friends on the Executive Committee and in the Presidential Line, as well as the highly professional staff of our Head Office, who have supported me in my work. It always takes a joint effort to achieve real success.

author

Prof. Miklós Szendrői  
EFORT President 2010/2011

## Portrait of the Hungarian Orthopaedic Association

Orthopaedics has a long history in Hungary. The foundation of the first orthopaedic department dates back to 1836. Unfortunately, the private institution that was founded by Ágoston Schoepf-Mérei was destroyed two years later by the devastating flood of the River Danube.

Several other institutions started up in the decades that followed. Gyula Dollinger – one of the biggest names in Hungarian orthopaedics – founded his institution at his own cost in 1889. The Institute for Disabled Children was founded by public donations in 1903. The first orthopaedic department in a general hospital (Saint John's Hospital in Budapest) was opened in 1918, and led by Mihály Horváth. The first university orthopaedic department opened at Semmelweis University in Budapest in 1951.

An important milestone in the develop-

ment of Hungarian orthopaedics was the publication of the first orthopaedic textbook in Hungarian in 1866, edited by Sámuel Batizfalvy. It has been followed by several other Hungarian orthopaedic textbooks in the intervening 150 years.

The Hungarian Orthopaedic Association (HOA) was founded by Jen Kopits in 1934. It has had a great impact on the development of orthopaedics in our country. The first orthopaedic congress was held in Nyíregyháza in 1957 and since then congresses have been organised annually. Many of them have featured international faculty and attendees, and several of them have been joint conferences between the Hungarian Orthopaedic Association and the Hungarian Trauma Association. Publication of the first issues of the *Hungarian Journal of Traumatology and Orthopaedics* in cooperation of the Hungarian Trauma Association occurred in 1957.

The first version of the Hungarian Total Joint Registry was issued in 1998, and updated when the HOA website went online in 2003.

Traditionally orthopaedics and traumatology were separate specialties, with separate exams and separate services in Hungary. The leaders of the two professional societies and advisory boards nonetheless decided to draw up common training standards. The first orthopaedic-traumatology residents started training in 1994. Although training is shared, with few exceptions orthopaedic and trauma services in hospitals are separate.

The HOA, which has some 350 active members, joined EFORT right from the beginning. Our members are very active both nationally and internationally. Many Hungarian orthopaedic surgeons are regularly invited to speak at international meetings and join the editorial boards of well-known

journals. In addition to EFORT, we have good relationships with several other national societies and international specialist societies, and many of our members have also served on a number of their committees.

author

Jenő Kiss MD PhD CSc  
President of HOA

