

## 18th Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 16 May 2023, 12.40-13.30 (local time in Turkey) equivalent to 11.40-12.30 (CEST).  
Held at the ECE 2023 Congress Centre, Istanbul, Turkey and available online.

## MINUTES

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**NB: Some items in the meeting were covered in a different order from the agenda. However, for the purpose of the minutes the items follow the order of the agenda.**

### 1. Welcome and approval of agenda items

Martin Reincke welcomed everyone, both in Istanbul and online attendees, to the AGM. There were no additional agenda items to be discussed, and the agenda was approved.

### 2. Minutes of the 17th Annual General Meeting, 24 May 2022

Martin Reincke asked for approval of the minutes of the 17th Annual General Meeting, as detailed in Appendix 1 of the meeting papers. No questions were raised, and the minutes were agreed and would be signed.

### 3. President's report including

#### a. Farewell and welcome to the new Executive Committee Members

Martin Reincke congratulated and welcomed the new Executive Committee members: Wiebke Arlt (UK) – President-Elect (2023-2025), Eleanor Davies (UK) – Science Committee Chair and Sebastian Neggers (Netherlands) – Rare Disease Committee Chair. He also welcomed Antoan Sojat (Serbia) as the ESE Young Endocrinologists and Scientists (EYES) representative as an ex-officio member of the Executive Committee. It was also noted that Martin Fassnacht (Germany) would move from Science Committee Chair to Clinical Committee Chair.

Martin Reincke thanked the retiring Executive Committee members: Simona Glasberg (Israel) – Rare Disease Committee Chair, Robin Peeters (Netherlands) – Clinical Committee Chair and Lina Paschou (Greece) - EYES representative.

Martin Reincke reminded the meeting of ESE's strategy (2022-2026) - Shaping the future of endocrinology by uniting, supporting and representing our community and the main pillars noted as:

- To UNITE and REPRESENT the European endocrine community and be acknowledged as the reference point for endocrine health and science
- To further ADVANCE the science and clinical care of endocrinology
- To SUPPORT our members in education, clinical practice and research
- To reinforce ESE as a leading society which is sustainable, trusted and valued

Martin Reincke also summarised the main projects currently in progress which fell under each of the main pillars. He also reported on some of the achievements and progress made during his Presidency, which included:

- Equality, inclusion and diversity – policy developed and published on the website
- European Women in Endocrinology group launched and active
- Support to Basic scientists - successful educational events and commencement of the Endocrinology Research Roadmap
- Journal developments – planning the launch of new Open Access journals
- European Hormone Day – second edition in 2022 and brings together members, national, pan European, national and international societies, patient groups and industry

- Support to Ukraine – taskforce continues to meet to discuss activities where ESE can support the Ukrainian endocrine community
- ESE Leadership Academy – concept developed and agreed and launch plans in progress

It was noted that the major project in progress for 2023 include was the implementation of a new Customer Relationship System – this was a central database which would hold all of ESE’s data and be the foundation for the membership information and activities and would also allow the membership service to come ‘in-house’ (rather than an outsourced activity) later in the year. Plans to develop the growth of the ESE team were also in place, which would provide the support to the membership and finance activities of the society.

There were no questions raised from the attendees.

#### **4. Treasurer’s report including**

##### **a. Update on the report of the trustees (Executive Committee) and the audited accounts for the year ended December 2022**

Djuro Macut presented a summary of the 2022 Financial statements. It was noted that the detailed Trustees Report and Financial Statements (draft) were included in Appendix 2 of the meeting papers, together with a summary document.

Djuro Macut reported that there was an operating deficit of €353 949 on activities in 2022; there had been a negative impact on investments with an unrealized loss of €697 159 and therefore the final movement in the funds showed a decrease of €1 051 108 from the previous year.

There had been an increase in revenue for the congress in 2022, this was due to the return of the in-person congress in Milan, Italy compared to the online e-ECE in 2021. However, there had been a reduction in revenue generated from sponsorships and grants; part of this was due to the timing of the funded projects (with some starting and some finishing) but also showed that industry funding was becoming harder to achieve. The revenue from publishing showed a decrease in 2022 when compared to 2021, and this was due to the one-off signing fee from the new publisher of EJE (Oxford University Press).

Direct costs had also increased from 2021, again the main contributor to this was the return of the in-person congress in 2021, as the costs for organising an in-person congress were substantial compared to an online congress. The lifting of travel restrictions in 2022 allowed people to start travelling again and attend events and meetings, and this saw an increase in the grants awarded and meeting costs. There was also an increase in communications, website, and publicity costs.

Djuro Macut reported that the EJE reserve fund had been calculated as €1 768 000 and the ESE general reserve had been calculated at €2 283 000, the total of the reserves being €4 051 000.

The ESE general reserve policy was calculated to allow ESE to run the majority of its activities for a two-year period and took into account the major risks such as withdrawal of funding from major supporters and the reduction in the size of ECE.

After deducting the restricted funds brought forward from the previous year the total held above the reserve requirement was €920 571. Djuro Macut noted that the Executive Committee was aware that at the end of 2022 these funds were being held above the reserves and this had been taken into account when reviewing the strategy and investment in activities for future years. However, a relatively careful approach would be necessary; ESE was operating a deficit budget for 2023 of approximately €667 000, due to the plans in place for the year (and beyond). Investment was planned to utilise a proportion of these funds; however the financial situation would be evaluated on an ongoing basis due to the current uncertainties that remain as a result of challenges to revenue and increases in costs.

There were no questions raised from the attendees.

**b. Resolution to appoint the auditor until the next AGM and to authorise the trustees (Executive Committee) to fix their remuneration**

Djuro Macut informed the meeting that ESE was required to ask the members for their approval and acceptance of Moore Kingston Smith as the auditors until the next AGM and to authorise the trustees (Executive Committee) to fix their remuneration. Members who were not able to attend the AGM in person in Istanbul had had the opportunity to submit their vote in advance by proxy. The attendees completed and submitted their voting papers in the room for counting.

The vote count resulted in:

	<b>In favour</b>	<b>Not in favour</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
Proxy /online count	2	0	0
Room count	91	0	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>

The resolution was approved for Moore Kingston Smith to act as auditors until the next AGM and for the Executive Committee to fix their remuneration.

**5. Secretary's report**

Maria Chiara Zatelli presented the Secretary's report and informed those present that the ESE membership currently represented 4812 members world-wide, 50 National Affiliated Societies, 13 Specialty Affiliated Societies, 6 Associate Societies and 24 Patient Advocacy Group members. She summarised the individual membership demographics such as geographical location and membership category data. It was noted that, as agreed at the 2021 AGM, the lapsing date had changed from 6 months (end June) to 3 months (end March), and this had been reflected in the current membership total, as lapsing now took place before the congress rather than afterward.

Maria Chiara Zatelli encouraged everyone to read ESE's Annual Review for 2022 which summarised the many activities and achievements of the society of the last 12 months. She also reminded the meeting that there was still time to nominate colleagues for the Transatlantic Alliance Award (closing date 25 June 2023) and information regarding the criteria and eligibility could be found on the ESE website.

Maria Chiara Zatelli informed the meeting that the ECE 2024 would be held in Stockholm, Sweden, 11-14 May 2024 and in 2025 there would be a joint meeting with the European Society for Paediatric Endocrinology (ESPE), 10-13 May 2025, Copenhagen, Denmark.

Maria Chiara Zatelli thanked the Corporate Members for their continued support.

**a. Membership fees for 2024**

Martin Reincke presented the recommendation from the ESE Executive Committee and the ESE Membership Committee on increasing the ESE Membership Fees. The full details had been circulated to the membership in advance and they were detailed in Appendix 3 of the meeting papers, and this was summarised by Martin Reincke.

Martin Reincke explained that the benefits, events and activities for members had increased every year, but the membership fee had remained the same since 2012 – despite increases in costs and inflation across Europe. He added that the society wanted to continue to provide and further expand its membership services and the proposal was to increase the membership fees from 2024 onwards. The proposed new tiered would ensure that the membership would remain affordable for ESE to provide whilst remaining good value for money for the member, and also remains competitive compared to other societies and reduced (or concession rates) would be available.

Martin Reincke asked if there were any questions.

Four members of the audience spoke with their support of the proposal to increase the membership fee. It was also commented that a more regular and smaller increase may be easier to manage in the future years.

Martin Reincke then asked those present to complete their voting paper. Members who were not able to attend the AGM in person in Istanbul had had the opportunity to submit their vote in advance by proxy. The attendees completed and submitted their voting papers in the room for counting.

The vote count resulted in:

	<b>In favour</b>	<b>Not in favour</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
Proxy /online count	0	2	0
Room count	84	17	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>2</b>

The proposal to increase the membership fee for the next membership year was approved.

#### **6. Date of next Annual General Meeting**

The next Annual General Meeting would be held during ECE 2024 in Stockholm, Sweden, 11-14 May 2024.

#### **7. Any other business**

There was no other business to discuss.

#### **8. Message from the President-Elect and the official hand-over of the ESE Presidency**

Martin Reincke thanked the Executive Committee members and the ESE Team for all their support and hard work during his Presidency.

Jérôme Bertherat, on behalf of the Executive Committee, paid tribute to and thanked Martin Reincke for his leadership, support, and dedication to the European Society of Endocrinology during his term of office.

The meeting was closed.

Signed		Martin Reincke ESE President (retiring)	Date	14 May 2024
Signed		Jérôme Bertherat ESE President (incoming)	Date	14 May 2024
Signed		Andrea Davis ESE Office	Date	14 May 2024