



EFIM
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President: Prof. Ricardo Gómez Huelgas, Spain
President Elect: Prof. George Dalekos, Greece
Past President: Prof. Dror Dicker, Israel
Secretary General: Prof. Vasco Barreto, Portugal
Treasurer: Prof. Filomena Pletrantonio, Italy

EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF INTERNAL MEDICINE

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Wednesday, 15 March 2023, Athens, Greece

Minutes

General Assembly 09:00 - 14:00

1. Welcome (D. Dror)

D. Dicker welcomed the representatives of EFIM General Assembly to Athens thanking Prof. George Dalekos and the Hellenic Society of Internal Medicine for hosting the GA and the ECIM 2023 in Athens. D. Dicker thanked all the EFIM societies members for all their support and engagement in EFIM activities in the past year.

2. EFIM President report (D. Dicker)

D. Dicker presented the President's Report thanking the members of the EFIM Executive Committee, EFIM Working Groups and the Executive Manager for their hard work in the past year reflecting on the achievements of 2022 - 2023.

D. Dicker congratulated all the faculty members working on the scientific programme of the congress that produced a high-level scientific programme for the 21st ECIM 2023 in collaboration with the International Congress of Internal Medicine. D. Dicker presented the figures from the ECIM 2023 informing the participants that almost 1500 participants registered to the congress. The Scientific Faculty reviewed over 1700 abstract submissions.



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Dicker thanked all the members for their help in organising such a high-level congress. Furthermore, D. Dicker acknowledged all the ongoing activities in EFIM encouraging the members to take active role in the EFIM Academy, EFIM Working Groups, Schools, and scientific programme organisation of the congress. D Dicker congratulated Prof. Agnelli, EJIM Editor-in-Chief for higher impact factor achieved in 2021 to IF: 7.749 rating EJIM 26th out of 169 journals in the category General Internal Medicine which is expected to increase for 2022. Finally, D. Dicker welcomed the two now societies onboard of EFIM: The Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh and the Mexican College of Internal Medicine.

D. Dicker added that EFIM is constantly growing comprising of 38 national societies from 35 countries in Europe and outside becoming the leading professional organisation for internists in Europe.

Presentation of EFIM President is available on EFIM website.

https://efim.org/system/files/presidents_report_-_prof._dicker.pdf

List of the General Assembly representatives participating at the meeting in Athens is available for a download on EFIM Website.

file:///C:/Users/Aneta%20Trajkovska/Downloads/list_of_attendees_ga_9_march_2023-2.pdf

80 representatives presenting 31 EFIM National societies attended the General Assembly in Athens following EFIM statutes, the meeting has been validly constituted.

3. ECIM 2024 (D Dicker)

D Dicker presented Istanbul as the confirmed destination for the 22nd European Congress of Internal Medicine which will take place from 6 - 9 March 2024.

D. Dicker thanked Prof. Serhat Unal for his support to host ECIM 2024 in Istanbul and invited all the national societies to actively promote this congress and circulate the information among their members.

4. Approval of the minutes of the General Assembly held on 8 June 2022

The minutes of the General Assembly are approved without any correction by all members following the electronic dissemination to each member before the meeting. The minutes are to have been approved by the General Assembly thirty (30) calendar days as from the date mentioned on the notification described above.



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5. Report of the Treasurer, approval of the EFIM Annual Accounts 2022 and the report on the accounts for 2023 and the EFIM budget for 2024 (F. Pietrantonio)

F. Pietrantonio, EFIM Treasurer presented the 2022 accounts, informing the General Assembly members on the positive result achieved in 2022 ending the year with a 53.805,10 EUR profit. F. Pietrantonio thanked the national societies for processing the membership dues on time and ensuring smooth operation of EFIM office daily activities. F. Pietrantonio reported that outstanding amount of € 5.741,82 EUR for EFIM membership dues are to be received in the coming months of 2023 from several national societies members however the results for the end of the year will remain positive due to the good outcome of the ECIM 2022 congress, Journal Royalties and national societies contributions.

The 2022 end-of-year results were approved unanimously by the EFIM General Assembly Members.

	Accounts Approved	Final 31/12/2022
Income	€ 272.700,00	€ 311.356,99
Expenditure	€ 265.441,32	€ 262.271,89
PROVISIONS ADDED		€ 22.280,00
<i>social liabilities</i>		€ 780,00
<i>IT Equipment</i>		€ 1.500,00
<i>EFIM Office</i>		€ 20.000,00
PROVISIONS TAKEN BACK		-€ 27.000,00
<i>Website</i>		-€ 1.000,00
<i>Legal Liabilities</i>		-€ 8.000,00
<i>Promotional Materials</i>		-€ 18.000,00
Result	€ 7.258,68	€ 53.805,10



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F. Pietrantonio presented the current assets on EFIM bank account announcing the decision of the Executive Committee to invest in property, the future EFIM Headquarters while distributing the rest of the assets to the EFIM Activities as per the budget forecasted. The expected results for the end of 2023 with all the investments and EFIM activities is projected as break-even. The results will of course depend on the outcome of the ECIM 2023 congress which is expected to be positive and the rest of the planned projects until the end of the year. A copy of the accounts has been sent to the members prior to the meeting together with all the supporting documents.

Couple of questions were raised by invited representatives of the EBIM, Prof. Rijk Gans regarding the property acquisition, however the decision was warmly welcomed by the members of the General Assembly.

	Budget approved 2023	Forecast 2023
Income	€ 264.000,00	€ 301.500,00
Expenditures	€ 285.419,93	€ 300.600,00
Result	-€ 21.419,93	€ 900,00

To conclude, F. Pietrantonio submitted the budget for 2024 informing the representatives of EFIM General Assembly that due to the inflation in Europe the overall cost of all the services running EFIM has been increased by more than 10% therefore the annual expenses are anticipated to be higher than in the previous years. However, the ECIM 2024 to be held in Istanbul is expected to be positive so EFIM will be able to break-even at the end of 2024.

	Budget proposal 2024
Income	€ 301.500,00
Expenditures	€ 301.000,00
Result	€ 500,00



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Members of the General Assembly approved EFIM Budget proposal for 2024.

The Treasurer's report has been uploaded on EFIM website together with the rest of the presentations from the GA and sent to the members of the General Assembly after the meeting.

6. Granting discharge from liability of Executive Committee members for the accounting that ended on 31 December 2022 (A. Trajkovska)

EFIM Executive Committee members were granted discharge by the members of the General Assembly for the accounting that ended on 31 December 2022, unanimously.

7. New Members presentation, voting and approval:

- Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh - Dr. Kerri Baker

Dr. Kerri Baker, the Director of Education at the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh presented the college activities focused on Education, Training, Standards including health policy and Heritage. The Royal College of Physician of Edinburgh counts more than 2500 members experts in internal medicine. The college is dedicated to developing education and professional development through symposia, research and development grants and postgraduate programmes. The MRCP(UK) Examination is the biggest postgraduate medical examination in the world counting more 26000 candidates per year from 27 countries and has more than 200 years history in medical examination.

Dr. Baker thanked EFIM for being invited to present the RCPE activities as they are eager to join and collaborate closely with EFIM in the future.

Members of the EFIM General Assembly approved the membership of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh as an Ordinary Member of EFIM unanimously.

- Mexican College of Internal Medicine - Dr. Juan Luis Salgado Loza

Dr. Salgado Loza, the President of the Mexican College of Internal Medicine presented the activities of the college focusing on the main objectives of the Mexican college: Continuing Medical Education, Internal Medicine Specialists Representation, Advocacy in Health Law Changes, Social commitment. Dr. Salgado Loza gave brief overview on the history of the college, currently counting more than 1200 active members. The Mexican College has close collaboration with several societies in South America, ACP in US and ISIM in Europe. Dr. Salgado Loza thanked the Executive Committee for the invitation to Athens and stated that the college is looking forward to a close collaboration with EFIM in the future.



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Members of the EFIM General Assembly approved the membership of the Mexican College of Internal Medicine as an Associate Member of EFIM with unanimous vote.

8. Elections:

- EFIM President Elect, candidates:

1. Dr. Ieva Ruza, Latvian Society of Internal Medicine
2. Prof. George Dalekos, Hellenic Society of Internal Medicine
3. Prof. Rijk Gans, Netherlands Society of Internal Medicine

Manifestos of all the candidates were sent to the General Assembly members prior to the meeting.

Dr. Dicker invited Dr. Ieva Ruza to present her candidacy for a President Elect. Dr. Ruza is an internist at the Riga East Clinical University Hospital and Riga Stradins University with more than 25 years of experience in clinical medicine as a dedicated internist and endocrinologist, being trained in Latvia, Germany, and the USA. Dr. Ruza has been involved in EFIM activities for the past 10 years through the Young Internists, Early Career and EBIM as well as a Director/Co-Director of several highly successful international postgraduate courses (ESIM, EASIM, BaSIM). Dr. Ruza focused on several aspects: establishing Pan-European EFIM identity and close collaboration with all the societies. Dr. Ruza strongly believes that the membership structure change from that of a federation to a society with individual memberships would improve the communication and involvement of multiple national specialists in various international projects and activities.

Dr. Dicker thanked Dr. Ruza for her excellent presentation and invited Prof. George Dalekos to present his candidacy for a President Elect.

Dr. Dalekos is a Full Professor of Internal Medicine and a Head of the Department of Medicine and Research Lab of Internal Medicine, General University Hospital of Larissa, School of Medicine, Thessaly University, Larissa, Greece, responsible for the residency program in Internal Medicine in the University Hospital.

Prof. Dalekos has been actively involved as a Board member in several scientific organisations and has published over 334 full papers, focusing mainly on AIH, PBC, Viral hepatitis, Clinical immunology, Autoinflammatory disorders, Sepsis, Hemophagocytic Syndrome in Internal Medicine, and Infectious Diseases. Prof. Dalekos is currently involved as Academic Editor/Editorial Board member in many renowned medical journals. Prof. Dalekos' vision is to increase dedicated educational clinical centers, organization, promotion and motivation by EFIM. Increasing the number of members and Fellows and extending the collaboration with other



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European Scientific bodies active in the field of Internal Medicine and non-European Societies of Internal Medicine (America, Asia, Africa and Australia).

D. Dicker thanked Prof. Dalekos for his outstanding presentation and invited Prof. Rijk Gans to present his candidacy.

Rijk Gans is a Professor of Internal Medicine at the University Medical Center in Groningen, the Netherlands being involved with EFIM for more than 10 years as the President of UEMS Section of Internal Medicine and as EBIM Chair.

Prof. Gans presented his goals for EFIM's future development focusing on several items:

- Advancing the Choosing Wisely WG to the next phase
- providing support and care coordination to other hospital-based medical specialties and the co-management of hospital departments other than internal medicine
- developing and implementing integrative guidelines to reconcile conflicting specialty - or disease specific guidelines in close collaboration with relevant European Scientific Societies
- creation of an online community of practice and research
- advocate the goals and objectives of EFIM with other European Organizations and Patient organizations to influence policymakers at a European level.

Dror thanked Rijk for all his hard work in the past year and for the excellent presentation he gave and asked all three candidates to leave the room for voting.

9. Voting and approval of candidates for President Elect

Voting President Elect:

Members of the General Assembly voted according to the Article 12: Proceedings, quorums of EFIM Statutes. Members of the EFIM General Assembly elected Prof. George Dalekos from the Hellenic Society of Internal Medicine with 21 votes against 19 for Prof. Rijk Gans and 16 for Dr. Ieva Ruza, for the position of EFIM President-Elect for a duration of 2 years.

D. Dicker welcomed G. Dalekos to the EFIM Executive Committee as the new EFIM President-Elect, congratulating him on the election.

G. Dalekos will serve the EFIM Executive Committee in the role of EFIM President-Elect for the next 2 years (2023 - 2025).

The mandate of the EFIM President-Elect will not be remunerated.



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10. Handover: EFIM Presidents: N. Montano, D. Dicker and R. Gomez Huelgas

N. Montano concluded his mandate as a Past President saying that it has been a real privilege to serve EFIM and gain great knowledge and friends from the extremely hardworking and enthusiastic Executive Committee and Executive Manager. He thanked all his EFIM mentors, past and current Executive Committee Members, EFIM Secretariat and all the national societies involved during his term as a President. D Dicker, R. Gomez Huelgas and the rest of the EFIM Executive Committee members thanked N. Montano for his dedication, enthusiasm and hard work as EFIM Past President as his mandate came to an end and he will no longer be a member of the Executive Committee.

D. Dicker ended his term as a President and congratulated R. Gomez Huelgas handing him the position of EFIM President. R. Gomez Huelgas expressed his gratitude and honour to serve and represent EFIM over the next two years in the role of EFIM President stating that he will do his utmost to promote further growth of the organisation. R. Gomez Huelgas presented a brief overview on his aims for the coming 2 years in his role as a President, concentrating on improving the communication, harmonisation of the EU Curriculum, improving the identity of EFIM by creating new clinical working groups, research network and increasing the visibility of EFIM, via different media channels.

R. Gomez Huelgas will serve the EFIM Executive Committee in the role of **EFIM President** for the next 2 years (2023 - 2025).

The mandate of the EFIM President will not be remunerated.

D. Dicker will remain in the EFIM Executive Committee in the role of **EFIM Past President** for the next 2 years (2023 - 2025).

The mandate of the EFIM Past President will not be remunerated.

11. Progress update on EFIM Activities

The progress report of each EFIM activity is presented by the Chairs, the Editors-in-Chief and the members of the team in charge of specific group. All reports are available to the EFIM members from the EFIM website.

12. European Journal of Internal Medicine progress report (G Agnelli)

Full report can be downloaded on EFIM Website:

https://efim.org/system/files/ejim_porgress_report_-_prof._agnelli.pdf



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13. European Journal of Case Reports in Internal Medicine progress report (J. Kellett)

Full report can be downloaded on EFIM Website:

https://efim.org/system/files/ejcrim_progress_report_-_prof._kellett.pdf

14. Report from Young Internists (C. Delcea)

Full report can be downloaded on EFIM Website:

https://efim.org/system/files/efim_yi_report_-_dr._delcea.pdf

15. Report from the EFIM Academy (M Durusu), (A Burbridge)

Full report can be downloaded on EFIM Website:

https://efim.org/system/files/efim_academy_-_dr._burbridge.pdf

**16. Report from the EFIM Schools
- ESIM Summer 2022, El Escorial, Spain, 12 - 18 June (G. Ortiz)**

Full report can be downloaded on EFIM Website:

https://efim.org/system/files/esim_summer_2022_-_dr._ortiz.pdf

- ESIM Winter 2023, Björkliden, Sweden, 13 - 19 Februari

Full report can be downloaded on EFIM Website:

https://efim.org/system/files/esim_winter_2023_-_dr._savervall.pdf

**17. European Board of Internal Medicine and UEMS Section of Internal Medicine
(R. Gans)**

Full report can be downloaded on EFIM Website:

https://efim.org/system/files/ebim_update_-_prof._gans.pdf

18. Report from the Foundation for the Development of Internal Medicine in Europe (J.W. Elte)

Full report can be downloaded on EFIM Website:

https://efim.org/system/files/fdime_activities_2022_-_dr._elte.pdf

19. Next EFIM General Assembly, ECIM 2024, Istanbul, Turkey



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The next General Assembly will take place on Wednesday, 6 March 2024 during the European Congress of Internal Medicine ECIM 2024 which will take place in Istanbul, Turkey from 6 - 9 March.

20. Any other business:

No further questions were raised.

R. Gomez Huelgas thanked all the General Assembly members for their participation.

The General Assembly was adjourned at 14h00.

EFIM President

Prof. Ricardo Gomez Huelgaz

EFIM Past President

Prof. Dror Dicker