





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 Pietrantonio, Italy



EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF INTERNAL MEDICINE

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Wednesday, March 6 2024, Istanbul, Turkey

Minutes

General Assembly 09:00 - 14:00

1. Welcome (R. Gomez Huelgas)

R. Gomez Huelgas welcomed the representatives of EFIM General Assembly to Istanbul thanking Prof. Serhat Unal and the Turkish Society of Internal Medicine for hosting the GA and the ECIM 2024 in Istanbul that brought high turnout of participants to the congress. R. Gomez Huelgas thanked all the EFIM societies members for all their support and engagement in EFIM activities in the past year.

2. EFIM President report (R. Gomez Huelgas)

R. Gomez Huelgas presented the President's Report providing an overview of the key initiatives and accomplishments of EFIM in 2023 acknowledging the members of the EFIM Executive Committee, EFIM Working Groups and the Executive Manager for their hard work in the past year.

R. Gomez Huelgas presented the establishment of the new Clinical Working Groups dedicated to addressing emerging challenges and opportunities within the field of internal medicine: Acute Medicine and Hospitalism, Diabetes and Obesity, Heart Failure and the Infectious Diseases WG and thanked the societies for nominating their experts to participate actively in











the WGs. Participation at national and international meetings and congresses, the activities of the schools, EFIM YI Section and the Early Career Subcommittee as well as the hard work of the EFIM current Working Groups were highlighted. All the Chairs were congratulated with their achievements of the past yera. Furthermore R. Gomez Hulegas thanked the ECIM 2024 Scientific committee members for their hard efforts in providing diverse and engaging congress programme for all the attendees. Ricardo informed the GA members that 2000 participants registered to the congress in Istanbul and showed his gratitude to Prof. Serhat Unal and the Turkish Society of Internal Medicine for their excellent collaboration attracting many participants to the congress.

Presentation of EFIM President is available on EFIM website.

https://efim.org/system/files/efim_activities_2023_-_presidents_report_istanbul_ga.pdf

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

file:///C:/Users/Aneta%20Trajkovska/Downloads/list_of_attendees_ga_06_march_2024_istanbul-3.pdf

81 participants to the EFIM General Assembly from 38 national societies attended the General Assembly in Istanbul following EFIM statutes, the meeting has been validly constituted.

3. Approval of the minutes of the General Assembly held on 15 March 2023

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.

Minutes from 2023 GA are available on EFIM website:

https://efim.org/system/files/efim_minutes_ga_march_2023_v2.pdf

4. Report of the Treasurer, approval of the EFIM Annual Accounts 2023 and the report on the accounts for 2024 and the EFIM budget for 2025 (F. Pietrantonio)









EFIM www.efim.org

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F. Pietrantonio presented the Treasurer's report that outlines the financial performance and budget forecasts for EFIIM in 2023 and 2024.

2023 Financial Summary:

- Income: The final income for 2023 was €335,789.87, surpassing the approved amount of €264,000. This increase was primarily due to higher-than-expected revenue from the EJIM and increased national society memberships totalling €160,459.95 in 2023. F. Pietrantonio acknowledged all the national societies members for their diligence in settling the membership fee and informed the GA Members that EFIM is growing welcoming every year new national societies of internal Medicine. The congress in Athens contributed to a small but positive income in total of € 43.194,00.
- Expenditure: The total expenditure was €277,430.28, which was less than the approved budget of €309,489.21. Savings were realized in areas like the Executive Committee travel and EFIM Working Groups as some of the planned projects were moved to the following year.
- Result: The financial result for 2023 was a positive balance of €50,859.96, compared to an anticipated deficit of €45,489.21. F. Pietrantonio was happy to present the positive results for 2023 thanks to the involvement of all the national societies members, EFIM WGs, and Subcommittee, ECIM 2023 Scientific Committee, EJIM Editor in Chief and EJIM and EJCRIM Editorial office.

Income	Income Approved	Final 31 December 2023
TOTAL Income	€ 264.000,00	€ 335.789,87
Expenses	Expenses Approved	Expenses Forecast
TOTAL Expenses	€ 309.489,21	€ 277.430,28
NET RESULT	-€ 45.489,21	€ 58.359,59
PROVISIONS ADDED		-€ 12.499,63
EFIM Office		-€ 10.000,00
Social Liabilites		-€ 2.499,63
PROVISIONS TAKEN BACK		€ 5.000,00
Legal Liabilities		€ 5.000,00
NET RESULT		€ 50.859,96











The 2023 end-of-year results were approved unanimously by the EFIM General Assembly Members.

F. Pietrantonio presented the current assets on EFIM bank account informing the GA Members that the EFIM's new office is expected to be operational by June 2024. A copy of the accounts has been sent to the members prior to the meeting together with all the supporting documents.

2024 Budget Forecast was presented as follows:

Income: The expected income for 2024 is forecasted at €361,500, with significant contributions from EJIM/Elsevier, national societies, and the ECIM 2024 in Istanbul.

Expenditure: The forecasted expenses are €359,035.85, which includes increased allocations for the EJIM Editors/Elsevier and EFIM Projects.

Projected Result: A small surplus of €2,464.15 is expected

	Budget approved	Forecast
Income	€ 301.500,00	€ 361.500,00
Expenditures	€ 301.000,00	€ 359.035,85
Result	€ 500,00	€ 2.464,15

To conclude, F. Pietrantonio submitted the budget for 2025 informing the representatives of EFIM General Assembly that several items will be changed in 2025 with the move to the new office in 2025 adding other types of expenses to the budget but eliminating the current office rent cost. Furthermore, the aim is to grow the office engaging a second person in Brussels and launching new initiatives like the new Clinical Working Groups and the European Exam of Internal Medicine. F. Pietrantonio added that she is very optimistic for the years ahead due to the new projects coming highlighting the EFIM's strong financial management.



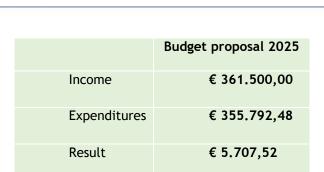








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Members of the General Assembly approved EFIM Budget proposal for 2025 unanimously.

5. Granting discharge from liability of Executive Committee members for the accounting that ended on 31 December 2023 (A. Trajkovska)

EFIM Executive Committee members were granted discharge by the members of the General Assembly for the accounting that ended on 31 December 2023, unanimously.

6. EFIM Activities - progress: EFIM new registered office (R. Gomez Huelgas)

EFIM new registered office with the current address at:

Leerlooierijstraat 18 / 004, 1930 Zaventem, Belgium

has been approved by the members of EFIM General Assembly.

- 7. Approval of the revision of EFIM Bylaws (V Barreto)
 - V. Barreto, EFIM Secretary General presented the key updates and amendments related to the EFIM By-Laws:

Key Amendments:

<u>Executive Committee Officer's Profile</u>: A new article was added to ensure broader representation and skilled leadership within EFIM with the following criteria:

- 1) Be Internal Medicine specialist for 10 years.
- 2) Have published high quality papers and have been recognized leaders teaching internal medicine community in Europe.
- 3) be a member in good standing with the National Society of their country.











- 4) have been an active member of the national society and served on its Board for at least 2 consecutive years.
- 5) reside, practice and work in the EFIM member country that is supporting the application of the candidate.
- 6) commit to comply with the statutes and internal regulations ("By-Laws") of EFIM.
- 7) have not reached the statutory retirement age under the applicable national law of their country of residence (main residence for tax purposes and employment), on the day of the appointment.
- 8) specifically for President-Elect, not reaching the statutory retirement age under the applicable national law of their country of residence (main residence for tax purposes and employment), on the day of the scheduled appointment as President.
- 9) not be sitting as a President or Chair of another organization

No candidate for the EFIM Executive Committee may run for any other office simultaneously. An individual who is serving on any other medical association (e.g., Board of Directors, council, or committee) at the time of election must relinquish their seat on that entity when assuming office.

<u>Fellowship Application Process</u>: The process was streamlined to be more accessible while maintaining high standards.

Fellowship Requirements additions:

- The fellow is specialised and has been practising internal medicine for more than 3 years.
- The fellow has attended/will attend ECIM congress or the Fellow has published paper in EJIM

<u>EFIM Academy Governance</u>: New governance structures were introduced to improve the efficiency of educational initiatives.

EFIM Academy:

New governance roles were introduced, to enhance the Academy's function in delivering educational content as follows:

The Editor-in-Chief of the EFIM Academy will be nominated by the Executive Committee (and it will be approved by the General Assembly). The post is for 2 years and can be extended further by 2-year periods after approval by the General Assembly. The Editor-in-Chief, in collaboration with the Associate Editor(s), the











Executive Advisory Board and the Scientific Advisory Board has the editorial responsibility of the EFIM Academy.

- The Editor-in-Chief will appoint Associate Editor(s) selected on the basis of expertise and knowledge of the subject matter with the approval of the Executive Committee. The initial term of the Associate Editor(s) shall be active throughout the mandate of the current Editor-in-Chief.
- The Editor-in-Chief together with the EFIM President, EFIM President Elect and EFIM Past President forms the Executive Advisory Board. The Editorin-Chief may appoint two members of the national societies to the Executive Advisory Board with the approval of the Executive Committee.
- The Scientific Advisory Board will be appointed by the Editor-in-Chief from the experts selected by the EFIM National Societies.
- Language Editors, who will be native speakers, will be appointed by the Editor-in-Chief or the Associate Editor on demand in case there is a need to check the accuracy of the translation in different languages other than English
- Section Editors, who will be selected among different subspecialties and specialties by the Editor-in-Chief or the Associate Editor will be appointed to review the content of the learning modules and advice for amendments to the Editors.

The updated Bylaws are available for a download from EFIM website:

https://efim.org/system/files/downloads/fedstatutesenglish-fin_review_23_01_2024.pdf

This summary captures the major changes and processes outlined in the Secretary General's report, emphasizing the continuous improvement and modernization efforts within EFIM.

Approval: The updated By-Laws were approved by the General Assembly on March 6, 2024 unanimously.

8. Elections voting and approval R. Gomez Huelgas

R. Gomez Huelgas informed the GA Members that the planned elections for the position of EFIM Secretary General cannot be conducted. The sole candidate, Dr. Christine Sävervall from the Swedish Society of Internal Medicine, was ineligible due to a recent correction and approval of the EFIM Bylaws. The updated Bylaws stipulate that no candidate for the EFIM Executive Committee may hold another office simultaneously, specifically prohibiting those who are currently serving as a











President or Chair of another organization. Since Dr. Sävervall is the current President of the Swedish Society of Internal Medicine and chose not to step down from that role the election for the Secretary General position was not held.

In light of the situation where the election for EFIM Secretary General could not be organized, Dr. Vasco Barreto, the current Secretary General, agreed to continue in his role for another year. He will remain in office until the next election, which is scheduled to take place on 5 March 2025 during the 23rd ECIM (European Congress of Internal Medicine) in Florence, Italy.

The EFIM Secretariat will organize a new election for the position of Secretary General. The election process will open in the autumn of 2025, allowing new candidates to apply. This will ensure that a successor can be elected and ready to assume the role following Dr. Vasco Barreto's extended term, which ends on 5 March 2025.

9. Re-Election voting and approval:

EFIM Treasurer

Candidate: Dr. Filomena Pietrantonio - FADOI Italy

R. Gomez Huelgas informed the members of the EFIM General Assembly that there were no other candidates who applied for the position of EFIM Treasurer.

Voting Treasures: Filomena Pietrantonio was re-elected by the members of the EFIM General Assembly with unanimous vote.

- F. Pietrantonio will serve the EFIM Executive Committee in the role of EFIM Treasurer for the next 2 years until the General Assembly in March 2026. The mandate of the EFIM Treasurer will not be remunerated.
- F. Pietrantonio expressed her gratitude to the General Assembly members for their trust and assured them that she will do everything possible to improve EFIM's financial situation in the future.

10. New Members presentation, voting and approval: Ordinary Members applications

1) Albanian Society of Internal Medicine - Dr. Ledio Collaku, Secretary General

Presentation from the Albanian Society of Internal Medicine is available via EFIM website: https://efim.org/system/files/albanian_society_of_internal_medicine.pdf

The EFIM General Assembly unanimously approved the membership of the Albanian Society of Internal Medicine as an Ordinary Member of EFIM..

2) Azerbaijani Society of Internal Medicine - Dr. Barat Yusubov - President











The EFIM General Assembly unanimously approved the membership of the Azerbaijani Society of Internal Medicine as an Ordinary Member of EFIM.

3) Federation of Royal Colleges of Physicians of United Kingdom - Prof. Andrew Elder - member of the Board (joining RCP London, Edinburgh, and Glasgow) Presentation from the Federation of Royal Colleges of Physicians of United Kingdom is available via EFIM website:

https://efim.org/system/files/federation_presentation_istanbul_frcpuk.pdf

The EFIM General Assembly unanimously approved the membership of the Federation of Royal Colleges of Physicians of United Kingdom as an Ordinary Member of EFIM.

4) Georgian Association of Therapists - Prof. Tamara Kandashvili - President (presented by Dr. Maia Maia Gotsadze - Board Member)
The presentation from the Georgian Association of Therapists is available via EFIM website:

https://efim.org/system/files/georgian society of therapists.pdf

The EFIM General Assembly unanimously approved the membership of the Georgian Association of Therapists as an Ordinary Member of EFIM.

5) Ukrainian Society of internal Medicine - Prof. Vasyl Netiazhenko - President (presented virtually due to the current political situation in Ukraine and travel restrictions)

The EFIM General Assembly unanimously approved the membership of the Ukrainian Society of internal Medicine as an Ordinary Member of EFIM.

Associate Members candidates:

1) <u>Peruvian Society of Internal Medicine - Dr. Carlos Walter Contreras</u>
<u>Camarena - President</u>

Presentation from the Peruvian Society of Internal Medicine is available via EFIM website:

https://efim.org/system/files/spmi_dr. carlos contreras turkia 2024.pdf

The EFIM General Assembly unanimously approved the membership of the Peruvian Society of Internal Medicine as an Associate Member of EFIM.











2) Thi-Qar Internists Association of Iraq - Dr. Abbas Fadhil - President Presentation from the Thi-Qar Internists Association of Iraq is available via EFIM website:

https://efim.org/system/files/thi_qar_society_iraq.pdf

The EFIM General Assembly unanimously approved the membership of the Thi-Qar Internists Association of Iraq as an Associate Member of EFIM.

11. Host Selection ESIM Summer 2025-26/27

R. Gomez Huelgas introduced the three national societies that submitted bids to host the ESIM Summer School from 2025 to 2027. He then invited the Dr. Zdenek Monhart from the Czech Society to present their proposal:

- Proposal received by Czech Society - Dr. Zdeněk Monhart Dr. Monhart presented the proposal and introduced Dr. Jan Škrha as the Director of ESIM 2025 - 2027 together with co-directors Dr. Javier Moreno Díaz, and Dr. Martin Šatný as the Young Internists representative.

The proposal venue for the school is Park Holiday Hotel in Prague.

Budget was respected to keep this event independent from pharma support estimated to raise revenue from registration fees (1250 € per person) between 50,000 and 62,500 €, with anticipated expenses of $55,000 \in$.

Program: The summer school will feature up-to-date lectures on practical medical topics, case presentations, a "Choosing Wisely" session, hands-on workshops on POCUS (point-of-care ultrasound) and acute medical conditions, as well as several attractive activities included in the social program.

Administrative Support: The event is supported by the Czech Society of Internal Medicine and administratively managed by GALÉN-SYMPOSION.

Presentation from the Czech Society of Internal Medicine is available on EFIM website:

https://efim.org/system/files/esim_2025_-_proposal_by_czech_society.pdf

- Proposal received by Hellenic Society - Prof. Panagiotis Skendros Prof. Skendros was invited to present the Hellenic Society's proposal to host the ESIM Summer School from 2025 to 2027 in Alexandropoulos, Greece. Key highlights included:

Administration: The event will be directed by Prof. Panagiotis Skendros from the University Hospital of Alexandropoulos, together with Dr. Javi Moreno Díaz as a Co-director. Additional co-directors will be announced.

Scientific Programme: The proposed programme includes a variety of educational sessions:











- Opening Lecture on Democritus, the "father of modern science."
- 8 Expert Lectures on significant topics in internal medicine.
- 8 Interactive Case Learning Sessions where trainees present cases in groups.
- 4 "How to Treat" Sessions focused on specific conditions like hemophagocytic syndrome and secondary hypertension.
- 4 Hands-on Workshops on topics such as diabetic foot assessment and musculoskeletal ultrasound.

The proposed venue for the ESIM Summer School 2025 - 27 will be the University Hospital of Alexandropoulos and the Astir Egnatia Hotel. The location is easily accessible, with Alexandropoulos Airport nearby and alternative airports in Thessaloniki and Kavala.

Several social events were presented including a guided tour of the Archaeological Museum of Alexandropoulos and a farewell beach party.

The administrative organisation of the summer school will be organised by Convin PCO (Professional congress organiser from Greece)

Prof. Skendros presented rational budget and full support from the local university and medical school

The Hellenic Society aims to offer a unique, multicultural educational experience in a historically rich region, fostering collaboration among young internists.

The presentation from the Hellenic Society is available via EFIM Website: https://efim.org/system/files/esim_2025_-_proposal_by_hellenic_society.pdf

- Proposal received by Italian Society Dr. Alberto Marra Prof. Alberto Marra was invited to present the proposal from the Italian Society of Internal Medicine to host the ESIM Summer School in June 2025 on the island of Ischia, Italy. The key details from SIMI's proposal are included below:
 - The event will be directed by Prof. Alberto M. Marra, an Associate Professor of Internal Medicine at the "Federico II" University of Naples, with support from co-directors Ludovico Furlan, Gemma Ortiz, and Javier Moreno Díaz.
 - The primary location for the school is "Villa La Colombaia," the historical summer residence of the director Luchino Visconti, located in the village of Forio d'Ischia. The venue will offer both a large hall for lectures and smaller rooms for workshops and group activities.
 - Program Structure will include
 - Lectures: Daily sessions featuring special guests, focusing on how various fields like immunology, genetics, and AI have transformed internal medicine.











- Workshops: Daily practical workshops on internal medicine methodology, POCUS (Point-of-Care Ultrasound), and non-clinical topics like empathy, environmental impact, and burnout.
- Case Reports and
- Hands-on Practical Workshops: These will include simulations for procedures like intubation, pericardiocentesis, and central venous catheter placement.
- **Social Events** proposed are boat trip to Citara and Sant'Angelo Bay, with dinner and swimming activities.
- The estimated budget projected is approximately 39,385 €, covering accommodation, travel costs, transfers, meals, and social events, assuming 40 residents participate.

The Italian Society aims to provide a rich educational experience in a picturesque setting, combining advanced medical training with cultural and social activities.

The presentation from the Italian Society of Internal Medicine is available for a download from EFIM website:

https://efim.org/system/files/esim_2025_-_proposal_by_italian_society.pdf

Voting and approval of the ESIM Summer 2025-26/27

R. Gomez Huelgas R. Gomez Huelgas congratulated the three national societies on their proposals to host ESIM 2025-2027 and invited all national societies to participate in the voting process. Since the selection of the school host is an educational matter, all EFIM national societies, both Ordinary and Associate members, were encouraged to cast their vote for one of the candidates via voting ballot.

The results of the voting ballots were announced as follows:

- Italian Society of Internal Medicine, SIMI received 12 votes,
- the Czech Society of Internal Medicine received 6 votes,
- and the Hellenic Society received 16 votes,

making the Hellenic Society the next host of the ESIM Summer School for 2025-2027.

Ricardo congratulated the Hellenic Society of Internal Medicine and encouraged the national societies' representatives to send their residents to the upcoming summer school in Alexandropoulos.

12. Progress update on EFIM Activities

The progress report of each EFIM activity is presented by the Chairs, the Editors-in-Chief of EFIM Journals and the members of the team in charge of specific working











group, subcommittee or other EFIM initiatives. All reports are available to the EFIM members from the EFIM website.

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

Full report can be downloaded on EFIM Website: https://efim.org/system/files/progress_report_ejim_-_prof._agnelli.pdf

14. 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/progress_report_ejcrim_-_dr._kellett.pdf

15. Report from Young Internists (C. Delcea)

Full report can be downloaded on EFIM Website:

https://efim.org/system/files/report_yi_section_-_dr._delcea_1.pdf

16. Report from the EFIM Academy (M Durusu)

Full report can be downloaded on EFIM Website:

https://efim.org/system/files/report_efim_academy_-_prof._durusu_tanriover.pdf

- 17. Report from the EFIM Schools
 - ESIM Summer 2023, El Escorial, Spain, 12 18 June (G. Ortiz)

Full report can be downloaded on EFIM Website:

https://efim.org/system/files/report_esim_summer_2024_-_dr_ortiz.pdf

- ESIM Winter? 11- 17 February 2024, Björkliden, Sweden, February

Full report can be downloaded on EFIM Website:

https://efim.org/system/files/report_esim_winter_2024_-_dr._savervall.pdf

18. European Board of Internal Medicine and UEMS Section of Internal Medicine

Full report can be downloaded on EFIM Website:

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

19. Report from the Foundation for the Development of Internal Medicine in Europe (J.W. Elte) and (D. Sereni)



(R. Gans)









Full report can be downloaded on EFIM Website: https://efim.org/system/files/progress_report_fdime_-_prof._sereni.pdf

20. Next EFIM General Assembly, ECIM 2025, Florence, Italy

The next General Assembly will take place on Wednesday, 5 March 2025 during the European Congress of Internal Medicine ECIM 2024 in Florence, Italy from 5 - 8 March.

21. 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 14h30.

EFIM President

EFIM Secretary General

Prof. Ricardo Gomez Huelgaz

Dr. Vasco Barreto



