



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, March 5 2025, Florence, Italy

Minutes

General Assembly 10:00 - 15:30

1. Welcome (R. Gomez Huelgas)

R. Gomez Huelgas welcomed the representatives of the EFIM General Assembly in Florence, thanking all EFIM member societies for their support and engagement in EFIM activities over the past year and for their strong participation at ECIM 2025.

2. EFIM President report (R. Gomez Huelgas)

R. Gomez Huelgas presented an overview of EFIM activities for 2024-2025, highlighting the Executive Committee's participation in numerous national and international meetings and the opening of the new EFIM headquarters in Brussels as a major milestone for EFIM. R. Gomez Huelgas presented the figures for ECIM 2025 in Florence, noting a record participation of over 2,200 registered delegates from 82 countries and more than 2,400 submitted abstracts. R. Gomez Huelgas presented the Executive Committee elections, the relevant articles in the statutes and bylaws, and the distribution of votes among ordinary members in preparation for the elections.



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Updates were provided on the work of the Young Internists Section, the Early Career Subcommittee, EFIM Working Groups, EFIM webinars, and the European Schools of Internal Medicine held in Sweden, as well as preparations for the Summer School in Greece. R. Gomez Huelgas reported on the progress of both EFIM journals (EJIM and EJCRIM), thanking the Editors-in-Chief, Prof. Agnelli and Dr. Kellett, for their excellent work.

Furthermore, R. Gomez Huelgas presented the activities of the EFIM Academy, updated the GA on the number of accepted EFIM Fellows and exchange programme bursaries for 2025, and reported on institutional collaborations established with ACP, SHM, and UEMS. R. Gomez Huelgas informed the GA representatives of the new collaborations established with Wolters Kluwer regarding UpToDate and AMBOSS, offering discounted access to their educational materials for all EFIM national society members.

R. Gomez Huelgas concluded with an overview of EBIM activities, announcing the opening of the call for new EBIM members and outlining future priorities, including the launch of the European Exam and the revision of the European Curriculum of Internal Medicine.

List of the General Assembly representatives participating at the meeting in Florence is available for a download on [EFIM Website](http://www.efim.org).

Presentation from EFIM President is available for a download on EFIM website:

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

115 participants to the EFIM General Assembly from 40 national societies attended the General Assembly in Florence following EFIM statutes, the meeting has been validly constituted.

3. Approval of the minutes of the General Assembly held on 6 March 2024

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 2024 GA are available on EFIM website:

https://efim.org/system/files/efim_minutes_ga_march_2024_final.pdf



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4. Report of the Treasurer, approval of the EFIM Annual Accounts 2024 and the report on the accounts for 2025 and the EFIM budget for 2026 (F. Pietrantonio)

F. Pietrantonio presented the Treasurer's Report, projecting the financial performance of EFIM for 2024, the budget forecast for 2025, and the budget proposal for 2026.

2024 Financial Summary

Income:

F. Pietrantonio presented the income for 2024, confirming that membership fees remained the main source of income for EFIM and with the increased number of members this income has increased significantly adding 177.207,64 in membership fee for 2024. It was noted that €2,318.82 in membership fees for 2024 were still pending at the time of the General Assembly by national societies who still haven't processed their membership fees. F. thanked the national societies members on the continued commitment to EFIM informing them that the income levels were stable and in line with previous years. The congress in Istanbul brought higher than expected results totalling 106.577,76 in congress income.

Expenditure:

The total expenditure for 2024 was presented, showing that expenses were well controlled and aligned with the approved budget. No major deviations were reported, and EFIM's operational and project-related costs remained within the projected limits.

	Accounts Approved	Final 31/12/2024
Income	€ 301.500,00	€ 454.740,77
Expenditure	€ 301.000,00	€ 301.748,56
PROVISIONS ADDED		-€ 42.600,00
<i>EFIM projects (office, development)</i>		-€ 40.000,00
<i>Social Liabilities</i>		-€ 2.600,00
NET RESULT		€ 110.392,21



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Result:

F. Pietrantonio reported that EFIM closed the financial year 2024 with a positive financial result of € 110.392,21, confirming EFIM's stable financial position.

The Annual Accounts for 2024, as of 31 December 2024, including the overview of EFIM's current assets, were presented to the General Assembly. A copy of the accounts, together with all relevant supporting documents, were circulated to the members prior to the meeting.

The 2024 Accounts were approved unanimously by the Members of the EFIM General Assembly.

2025 Budget Forecast

F. Pietrantonio then presented the Account Forecast for 2025.

Income:

The expected income for 2025 was based on stable membership contributions from the national societies and other regular revenues from the journal and the higher contribution expected from the Florence congress.

Expenditure:

F. Pietrantonio presented the forecasted expenditure reflecting EFIM's ongoing activities and strategic priorities including the expenses for planned projects like expanding the EFIM office and launching new EFIM initiatives.

Projected Result:

Based on the presented figures, a positive net result of € 30.309,10 has been forecasted for 2025 mainly depending on the results from 2025 congress in Florence.

	Budget 2026
Income	€ 406.500,00
Expenditures	€ 376.190,90
Result	€ 30.309,10

2026 Budget Proposal

F. Pietrantonio presented the Budget Proposal for 2026, explaining that the proposed budget was prepared in line with EFIM's long-term strategic objectives, ensuring the continuation of EFIM's core activities and projects.



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F. Pietrantonio reported a small increase in expenses, related to the expansion of the EFIM office, the launch of two new Working Groups, and the development of new EFIM initiatives, including grants and the ongoing work on the launch of the European Exam of Internal Medicine.

Despite these additional costs, F. Pietrantonio highlighted that, based on stable membership income and increased participation in EFIM congresses, a positive financial result of €27,814.34 is forecasted for 2026.

EFIM Budget Proposal 2026

	Amount (€)
Income	401,500.00
Expenditure	373,685.66
Net Result	27,814.34

EFIM Budget Proposal for 2026 was submitted to the General Assembly for approval and was approved unanimously.

5. Granting discharge from liability of Executive Committee members for the accounting that ended on 31 December 2024 (A. Trajkovska)

EFIM Executive Committee members were granted discharge by the members of the General Assembly for the accounting that ended on 31 December 2024, unanimously.

6. Elections - Secretary General - Voting and Approval

Elections voting R. Gomez Huelgas

Candidate: Prof. Margus Lember - Estonian Society of Internal Medicine

R. Gomez Huelgas informed the members of the EFIM General Assembly that there was one application received for the Secretary General position presenting Prof. Margus Lember.

Prof. Lember presented his candidacy for the Secretary General. In his presentation, he outlined his vision and priorities for the Secretary role, emphasising EFIM's unique position as the only European organisation dedicated to Internal Medicine and the importance of strengthening the role of internists within European healthcare systems. Prof. Lember also stressed the importance of professional development, particularly for Young Internists, through EFIM educational activities and by further improving the scientific quality of EFIM congresses.



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In addition, he underlined his commitment to supporting research and innovation, fostering collaboration with academic institutions, and strengthening the outcome-oriented work of EFIM Working Groups.

Voting Secretary General: Prof. Margus Lember was elected by the members of the EFIM General Assembly with unanimous vote for the Secretary General position.

M. Lember will serve the EFIM Executive Committee in the role of EFIM Secretary General for the next 2 years until the General Assembly in March 2027. The mandate of the EFIM Secretary General will not be remunerated.

7. Elections President Elect - Voting and Approval:

EFIM President Elect

R. Gómez Huelgas informed the Members of the EFIM General Assembly that three candidates had applied for the position of EFIM President-Elect, as follows: Dr. Ieva Ruza from the Latvian Society of Internal Medicine, Dr. Fredrik von Wowern from the Swedish Society of Internal Medicine, and Prof. Serhat Ünal from the Turkish Society of Internal Medicine. Manifestos of all the candidates were sent to the General Assembly members prior to the meeting.

Prof. Elder, representing the Federation of Royal Colleges of Physicians of the UK, raised a question regarding the eligibility of Prof. Ünal's candidacy, noting potential non-compliance with the new EFIM Bylaws regarding his retirement age. This concern was reiterated by Prof. Pálsson from Icelandic Society of Internal Medicine and few other members of EFIM National Societies.

In response, Dr. Oğuz A. Uyaroglu, on behalf of the Turkish Society of Internal Medicine, clarified that in Turkey the mandatory retirement age at universities is 70 years, thereby confirming that Prof. Ünal meets the eligibility criteria.

Following this clarification and despite the concerns raised, the General Assembly approved Prof. Ünal's application to present his candidacy for the position of EFIM President-Elect.

Candidates:

Dr. Ieva Ruza - Latvian society of Internal Medicine

Dr. Ieva Ruza presented her candidacy for the position of EFIM 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.

In her presentation, she outlined her vision for shaping the future of Internal Medicine in Europe, emphasising the importance of strengthening EFIM's pan-European identity and fostering a strong sense of belonging among member societies and internists.

Dr. Ruza highlighted key priorities, including boosting education and training, supporting research, promoting collaboration across Europe, and strengthening EFIM's



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organisational and administrative capacity.

Dr Ruža also expressed her vision of evolving EFIM from a Federation into a more proficient and dynamic European Society of Internal Medicine, better equipped to meet future professional and educational challenges.

Dr. Fredrik von Wowern - Swedish Society of Internal Medicine

Dr Fredrik von Wowern presented his candidacy for the position of EFIM President-Elect. In his presentation, he outlined his professional background in Internal Medicine, clinical leadership, research, and active involvement in EFIM activities and Working Groups in the past years.

Dr. von Wowern presented his vision and key priorities, which include strengthening the implementation of the Choosing Wisely initiative, increasing the impact and engagement of EFIM member countries, and developing a European Curriculum and Exam in Internal Medicine. Additional priorities included promoting research and the responsible use of Artificial Intelligence in Internal Medicine, supporting cross-national collaboration, advancing hospitalist medicine and high-dependency care, and fostering the next generation of internists.

Prof. Serhat Unal - Turkish Society of Internal Medicine

Prof. Serhat Ünal presented his candidacy for the position of EFIM President-Elect. In his presentation, he highlighted his extensive experience in Internal Medicine, academic leadership, and long-standing involvement with EFIM as Executive Committee Officer and ECIM Chair, including his work within EFIM Working Groups and his role in EFIM educational activities and congresses.

He outlined a forward-looking vision addressing key challenges facing Internal Medicine in Europe, including digital transformation, climate change, healthcare professional burnout, and changing patient expectations. His priorities focused on promoting personalised care, advancing digital innovation and artificial intelligence, and several others.

Prof. Ünal also emphasised the importance of education and training, and international collaboration, calling for a unified and proactive EFIM to lead the future development of Internal Medicine in Europe.

Voting and approval 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 Dr. Fredrik von Wowern from the Swedish of Internal Medicine with 42 votes against 17 for Dr. Ieva Ruža, and 9 for Prof. Serhat Unal for the position of EFIM President-Elect for a duration of 2 years.



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R. Gómez Huelgas welcomed F. Von Wowern to the EFIM Executive Committee as the new EFIM President-Elect, congratulating him on the election. F. Von Wowern will serve the EFIM Executive Committee in the role of EFIM President-Elect for the next 2 years (2025 - 2027).

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

8. Handover:

- EFIM Past President (R Gomez Huelgas, D Dicker, G. Dalekos)

D. Dicker concluded his mandate as a Past President reflecting on his term and his journey within EFIM. He congratulated the EFIM Executive Committee and highlighted the implementation of the ABCD Action Plan, focusing on strengthening academic activities, developing innovative educational platforms, and reinforcing EFIM's Working Groups, Subcommittees and other initiatives.

Dr. Dicker underlined the development and expansion of EFIM educational activities, including the EFIM Academy, the Fellowship Programme, and the continued growth and visibility of the European Congress of Internal Medicine.

Dr. Dicker concluded by expressing his gratitude and appreciation to the EFIM leadership, member societies, and the wider EFIM community, stating that it had been a great honour and privilege to serve as EFIM President in the past 6 years.

Dr. Dicker's presentation is available from EFIM website:

https://efim.org/system/files/hadover_prof.dror_dicker_2025.pdf

R. Gómez Huelgas ended his term as a President and congratulated G. Dalekos handing him the position of EFIM President. G. Dalekos expressed his gratitude and honour to serve and represent EFIM over the next two years in the role of EFIM President promote further growth of EFIM with new initiatives and projects.

G. Dalekos will serve the EFIM Executive Committee in the role of EFIM President for the next 2 years (2025 - 2027).

The mandate of the EFIM President will not be remunerated.

R. Gómez Huelgas will remain in the EFIM Executive Committee in the role of EFIM Past President for the next 2 years (2025 - 2027).

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

9. New Members presentation, voting and approval:

G. Dalekos presented the societies that applied to join EFIM

Ordinary Members

Armenian Association of Internal Medicine - Prof. Lamara Manukyan

Prof. Lamara Manukyan, the President of the Armenian Association gave the



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presentation on the activities of the Armenian Association.

The presentation of the Armenian Association is available for a download via EFIM website:

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

Members of the EFIM General Assembly approved the membership of the Armenian Society as an Ordinary Member of EFIM unanimously.

Society for Acute Medicine - Dr. Nick Murch

Dr Nick Murch, current President of the Society for Acute Medicine (SAM), presented the Society to the Members of the General Assembly. He highlighted the close collaboration with the Royal College of Physicians (RCP), which has enabled a strong and unified voice for acute physicians since the Society's establishment in 2000, at a time when the concepts of Acute Medicine and Acute Medical Units were still emerging. Dr. Murch reported that SAM's membership has grown significantly over the past decade and now exceeds 1,000 members, the majority of whom are doctors specialising or training in Acute Medicine. He further underlined that a key component of SAM's activities is the organisation of twice-yearly CPD-accredited scientific meetings, which have increased in size. The Society currently organises two main conferences each year, including a Spring Meeting and an International Autumn Meeting, attracting delegates and speakers from across the world.

Members of the EFIM General Assembly approved the membership of the Society for Acute Medicine as an Ordinary Member of EFIM unanimously.

Turkish Association of Internists - Prof. Nizameddin Koca

Prof. Koca, the Vice President of the Turkish Association of Internists, presented the Society during the EFIM General Assembly in Florence. He expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to collaborate with EFIM and thanked the EFIM Executive Committee for accepting the Society's membership application.

Presentation is available for download on EFIM website:

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

Members of the EFIM General Assembly approved the membership of the Turkish Association of Internists as an Ordinary Member of EFIM unanimously.

Associate Members

Internal Medicine Society of Australia and New Zealand - Prof. Douglas Johnson

Prof. Douglas Johnson, Past President of the Internal Medicine Society of Australia and New Zealand, was pleased to present the activities of his society and expressed strong interest in establishing a close collaboration with EFIM and participation in EFIM activities.

The presentation of the Internal Medicine Society of Australia and New Zealand is available for a download from EFIM website:

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



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Members of the EFIM General Assembly approved the membership of the Internal Medicine Society of Australia and New Zealand as an Associate Member of EFIM unanimously.

Ceylon College of Physicians - Prof. Prasad Katulanda

Prof. Prasad Katulanda, current President of the Ceylon College of Physicians, was very pleased to be invited to attend the ECIM 2025 Congress in Florence and to present the Ceylon College of Physicians to the General Assembly members.

The presentation from the Ceylon College of Physicians is available for a download from EFIM website: https://efim.org/system/files/ceylon_college_of_physicians.pdf

Members of the EFIM General Assembly approved the membership of the Ceylon College of Physicians as an Associate Member of EFIM unanimously.

Egyptian Society of Internal Medicine - Dr. Mona Amin

Dr. Mona Amin, current Secretary of the Egyptian Society of Internal Medicine, presented the society and thanked the EFIM Executive Committee for the opportunity to join EFIM, expressing the society's interest in being actively involved in EFIM activities in the future.

The presentation from the Egyptian Society is available for a download from EFIM website: https://efim.org/system/files/egyptian_society.pdf

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

10. Host Selection ESIM Winter 2026/27 - 2028

G. Dalekos presented the four national societies in Internal Medicine who applied to host the next Winter School and invited them to present their proposals:

- Algerian Society of Internal Medicine - Dr. Farouk Benmediouni

Dr. Benmediouni presented the proposal by the Algerian Society to host EFIM Winter School in Algiers under the leadership of Prof. Nadia Oumnia as the School Director from 31 January to 6 February 2027. The proposed venues presented was Hyatt Regency Hotel in Algier for February 2026 and, Timimoun Guest House and Gourara Hotel in Timimoun for early 2027. The programme would span 5 days, with 40-50 participants, and include expert lectures, treatment-focused sessions, non-technical skills lectures, clinical case discussions, hands-on workshops, and cultural activities. Dr. Benmediouni highlighted Algeria's accessibility, academic potential in Internal Medicine, cultural value, and the organising team's capacity to support logistics, administration, and visa procedures and invited EFIM members to vote for the proposal of the Algerian Society.



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Presentation from the Algerian Society is available on EFIM website:
https://efim.org/system/files/esim_winter_candidate_host_algerian_society.pdf

Estonian Society of Internal Medicine - Prof. Margus Lember

Prof. Lember was more than happy to present the proposal of the Estonian Society to host the Winter School in Tartu, together with the Department of Internal Medicine of the University of Tartu, from 8-14 February 2026.

The Director of the school is Prof. Kati Kärberg, the head of the Internal medicine ward and lecturer at the Tartu University Hospital.

The proposed venue for ESIM Winter is V Spa Conference Hotel including a traditional EFIM programme structure with lectures on core Internal Medicine topics, workshops, non-clinical skills sessions, resident-led clinical case presentations, and hands-on evening sessions at Tartu University Hospital.

The proposal foresees approximately 40 participants, with an attractive social programme.

Prof. Margus highlighted that Tartu's strong academic environment and previous engagement with EFIM activities.

Presentation from the Estonian Society is available for download on EFIM website:

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

FADOI Italy - Prof. Francesco Dentali

Prof. Dentali presented the proposal by FADOI Italy to host ESIM Winter School in Bari, Italy, in February 2026 from 15 - 21 February under his leadership as the school Director.

Prof. Dentali presented Masseria Agritouristica Lama San Giorgio, located near Bari, as the venue for the Winter School offering an extraordinary residential setting. The scientific programme would focus on core and advanced topics in Internal Medicine, delivered by national and international experts, and would also include sessions on clinical research methodology with the development of a shared international research protocol.

The proposal highlights FADOI's strong educational experience, emphasis on sustainability, and a rich cultural and social programme showcasing the Puglia region. Prof. Dentali invited EFIM members to visit Bari and support FADOI to host EFIM's Winter School in 2026.

Presentation from FADOI is available for a download from EFIM website:

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



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Turkish Society of Internal Medicine - Dr. Oğuz Abdullah Uyaroğlu

Dr. Uyaroğlu presented the proposal by the Turkish Society of Internal Medicine to host the ESIM Winter School in Cappadocia, under the leadership of Prof. Ahmet Gül in February 2026. The Winter School would be organised at the DoubleTree by Hilton Avanos, offering a residential setting with conference facilities. The proposed programme includes main lectures and workshops including ultrasound, guideline analysis, scientific writing, sarcopenia and frailty, and clinical case presentations, supported by an experienced international faculty.

The proposal also outlines a comprehensive social programme highlighting Cappadocia's cultural and natural heritage. Dr. Uyaroğlu invited EFIM members to support the proposal of the Turkish Society and welcome them to Cappadocia.

Presentation from the Turkish Society of Internal Medicine is available for download from EFIM website:

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

G. Dalekos congratulated the four national societies on their proposals to host ESIM Winter 2026-2028 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 invited to cast their vote for one of the candidates via voting ballot.

The results of the voting ballots were announced as follows:

- Italian Federation of Associations of Hospital Internists / F.A.D.O.I. received 16 votes,
- the Estonian Society of Internal Medicine received 8 votes,
- the Algerian Society of Internal Medicine received 6 votes,
- the Turkish Society of Internal Medicine received 5 votes

making FADOI Italy the next host of the ESIM Winter School for 2026-2028.

G. Dalekos congratulated Prof. Dentali and FADOI Italy and invited the national societies' representatives to send their residents to the upcoming winter school in Bari.

11. Re-appointment - EJIM Editor-in-Chief - term Dec 2024 - Dec 2026



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The General Assembly approved the re-appointment of Professor Agnelli for a further two-year term as Editor-in-Chief of the European Journal of Internal Medicine, EJIM, from December 2024 to December 2026.

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/ejim_progress_report_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/ejcrim_progress_report_prof.kellett.pdf

15. Report from Young Internists (M Ribeiro)

Full report can be downloaded on EFIM Website:

https://efim.org/system/files/efim_yi_report_dr.ribeiro.pdf

16. Report from the EFIM Academy (M Durusu)

Full report can be downloaded on EFIM Website:

https://efim.org/system/files/efim_academy_report_-_2025_q1.pdf

17. Report from the EFIM Schools

- ESIM Summer 2025 Progress Report, 1 - 7 June Alexandroupolis, Greece (P. Skendros)

Full report can be downloaded on EFIM Website:

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

- ESIM Winter 2025, 9 - 15 February Björkliden, Sweden, February

Full report can be downloaded on EFIM Website:

https://efim.org/system/files/report_esim_winter_2025_sweden.pdf

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



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Full report can be downloaded on EFIM Website:

https://efim.org/system/files/fdime_activities_prof.sereni.pdf

19. Next EFIM General Assembly, ECIM 2026, Vienna, Austria

The next General Assembly will take place on Wednesday, 25 March 2026 during the European Congress of Internal Medicine ECIM 2026 in Vienna, Austria from 25 - 28 March.

20. Any other business:

No further questions were raised.

G. Dalekos thanked all the General Assembly members for their participation and continuous support to EFIM.

The General Assembly was adjourned at 15h30.

EFIM President
Prof. George Dalekos

EFIM Past President

Prof. Ricardo Gomez
Huelgaz