



EFIM
www.efim.org

President: Prof. Nicola Montano (Italy)
President Elect: Prof. Dror Dicker (Israel)
Past President: Prof. Runolfur Palsson (Iceland)
Secretary General: Prof. Xavier Corbella (Spain)
Treasurer: Prof. Valentin Kokorin (Russian Federation)

EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF INTERNAL MEDICINE

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Friday, 25 September 2020, Virtual Meeting

Minutes

General Assembly

1. Welcome (N. Montano)

N Montano welcomed the members of EFIM General Assembly to the first EFIM virtual Assembly. Nicola congratulated all the EFIM internists who were faced with an unprecedented burden of stress, fighting Covid-19 in the last several months.

2. EFIM President report (N. Montano)

N Montano presented brief overview on the EFIM activities from the past year, thanking the members of the EFIM Executive Committee and the Executive Manager for their hard work and commitment shown in the past few months, meeting regularly via Zoom. N Montano focused on the online meetings organised with the Presidents of the national societies and the online webinars organised to share the experiences in the management of Covid-19. Nicola focused on the increased collaboration with the national societies and the EFIM online symposia organised with the Argentinian Society, the Spanish Society and ACP. Furthermore, N Montano informed the GA about the decision taken to organise the European Congress of Internal Medicine 2021 virtually using an interactive congress platform which will be provided by Kenes. Nevertheless, Malaga will remain the destination for the 2022 congress. Nicola introduced the numerous publications of the EFIM Working Groups and the Executive Committees in EJIM and other prominent journals and introduced the two new working groups proposed by the Spanish Society: Multimorbidity WG and the WG on Telemedicine, Innovative Technologies, and Digital Health. Nicola added that the EFIM is considering to re-launch the Rare Disease Subcommittee in 2021. An innovative communication strategy was presented emphasizing the involvement of EFIM in social media and the updated information of the EFIM website. N Montano concentrated on the EU Affairs and EFIM's involvement in the European Health Summit in collaboration with EFPIA,

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leading EFIM as Advocate of Internal Medicine for patients and physicians in Europe in the future.

3. Report of the Treasurer, approval of EFIM Annual Accounts 2019, and report on the accounts for 2020 and the EFIM budget for 2021 (V. Kokorin)

V. Kokorin, EFIM Treasurer presented the 2019 accounts, informing the General Assembly members that the year 2019 will end with a positive balance of **€47,888.31**, due to the successful congress revenue from Lisbon, EFIM membership income and the Royalties from EJIM.

2019	Accounts Approved	Final 31/12/2019
Income	€ 260.000,00	€ 316.727,66
Expenditure	€ 264.820,12	€ 252.034,35
Provision – social liabilities		- € 1.805,00
Provision - legal liabilities		- € 10.000,00
Provision – EFIM international		- € 5.000,00
Result	-€ 4.820,12	€ 47.888,31

The 2019 end-of-year results were approved unanimously by the EFIM General Assembly Members.

V. Kokorin presented the finances for 2020, projecting that the year will end up with a small deficit of -€ 17.108,52.

The results will of course depend on the planned face to face meetings in December and the ability to travel again.

V. Kokorin thanked all the national societies for processing their membership dues on time in 2020 which facilitated the daily activities of EFIM. V. Kokorin added that the new membership structure which has been already presented to the member societies during the summer will be effective as of January 2021 following the approval of the new EFIM Statutes and Bylaws.

V. Kokorin submitted the budget proposal for 2021, projecting a negative result of -€ 22.956,16 due to change of the congress format to virtual and the uncertainty of organising a profitable congress.

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Budget Proposal 2021	
Expenses	€ 259.156,16
Income	€ 236,200.00
Results	-€ 22.956,16

Members of the General Assembly approved unanimously EFIM Budget proposal for 2021.

4. Granting discharge from liability of Executive Committee members for the accounting that ended on 31 December 2019 (N. Montano)

EFIM Executive Committee members were granted discharge by the members of the General Assembly for the accounting that ended on 31 December 2019, unanimously.

5. Approval of the extension of the mandate of EFIM Executive Committee till GA 2021

A Trajkovska, EFIM Executive Manager explained the legal procedure following the communication sent to the Presidents of EFIM national societies regarding the derogation of the annual congress to March 2021. At the same time, the General Assembly will be shifted from September to March and therefore it is necessary to extend the current mandate of the Executive Committee for another six months until the next General Assembly on 18 March 2021.

Members of the General Assembly approved unanimously the extension of the mandate of the current EFIM Executive Committee till GA on 18 March 2021 as follows:

- Prof. Nicola Montano, EFIM President
- Prof. Runolfur Palsson, EFIM Past President
- Dr. Dror Dicker, EFIM President Elect
- Prof. Xavier Corbella, EFIM Secretary General
- Ass. Prof. Valentin Kokorin, EFIM Treasurer

6. Approval: EFIM Statutes and EFIM Bylaws

X Corbella, EFIM Secretary General presented the final version of EFIM Statutes, EFIM Bylaws and the new EFIM Membership Structure.

Detailed report is available for a download via EFIM website:

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https://efim.org/system/files/secretary_general_report_efim_statutes_and_bylaws_25_sep_2020.pdf

The following articles have been amended:

1) Membership Categories:

Associate members - have no voting rights, except on educational matters or professional activities like decision for school and congress destinations.

2) EFIM Membership - new structure

Extra Large members > 2301 (4 votes)

Large members 1001 - 2300 (3 votes)

Medium members 501 - 1000 (2 votes)

Small members < 500 (1 vote)

Extra small members < 200 (1 vote)

Membership categories	Base fee
Very small members < 200	525€
Small members < 500	1050€
Medium members 501 - 1000	1575€
Large Members 1001 - 2300	2100€
Extra Large Members > 2301	2625€
	If one country counts more than one member society, each such individual member society is due 50% of the normal Base Fee
Associate members < 500	525€ Associate members fixed fee
Associate members ≥ 500	1050€ Associate members fixed fee

3) Voting Rules

- Secret ballot

All votes on appointments in the Executive Committee or other personal matters shall be taken by a secret ballot, unless the Executive Committee asked for an open vote when there are no conflicts of interest; all other votes are public.

- Need of Majority

In case of elections, where none of the candidates obtains a majority of the votes cast, further voting rounds will be organised until a candidate obtains a majority.

4) EFIM Governing Bodies

- EFIM President - 1 term of 2 years
- EFIM President Elect - 1 term of 2 years
- EFIM Past President - 1 term of 2 years
- EFIM Secretary General - 2 terms of 2 years
- EFIM Treasurer - 2 term of 2 years

4a) Executive Manager/ EFIM Daily Manager

Mrs. Aneta Trajkovska, residing at Diegemstraat 87, 1830 Machelen (date of birth, 15/11/1974), is being appointed a Daily Manager of EFIM to execute and perform all and any administrative duties and aspects that are involved and comes with the daily management

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of EFIM as an international non-profit association. The Daily Manager has the power to take all actions that are necessary for the needs of daily life of the company or the needs that, due to their minor importance and necessity to take a fast solution, do not justify the intervention of the board of directors.

EFIM Bylaws

- 1) Detailed role description of the EFIM Executive Committee, Subcommittees, Working Groups, ESIM, Journals, EBIM and Fellowship has been added.
- 2) ECIM
EFIM President is ECIM President
ECIM Chair is a representative of local member (country)
Congress Scientific Committee: ECIM President, ECIM Chair, YI Chair, EFIM EC
- 3) YI Section
YI Assembly consists of one representative elected or nominated by a member (national societies)
YI Section Board: YI Chair, YI Secretary, 4 Board members with 1 term of 2 years
- 4) EFIM Subcommittees
Subcommittee Chair is appointed by the Executive Committee.
Chair will propose to the EC four Subcommittee Officers with 1 term of 4 years.
- 5) EFIM Working Groups
Proposed by EC or EFIM members societies.
10 societies members minimum to form the WG.
Per society maximum of 2 representatives
Chair's mandate is 1 term of 3 years
- 6) ESIM
The proposal of the school will be selected by the General Assembly for a period of 2 - 3 years.
- 7) EJIM
Editor-in-Chief is nominated by the EC and approved by the GA
Editor-in-Chief term is 6 years, with a 2nd term of 2 years upon approval of GA
Publication Committee: Past President & Secretary General
Associate Editors, Editorial Board and office are involved in the management of the journal.
- 8) EJCRIM
Editor-in-Chief will be nominated by the EC and approved by the GA
Editor-in-Chief term is 6 years, with a 2nd term of 2 years upon approval of GA.
- 9) EBIM
EBIM is a joint initiative between the IM Section of the UEMS and the EFIM
Its internal rules shall be set forth in a document jointly approved by UEMS and EFIM.
- 10) EFIM Fellowship - will be re-launched during the ECIM 2021
 - Members from EFIM members societies
 - National society supports the application.
 - Evaluation by EC
 - Fellow application online, 100€ one-time fee.

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Members of the EFIM General Assembly approved EFIM Statutes and EFIM Bylaws with unanimous vote.

7. Arzte Codex paper

Prof. Petra Maria Schum - Draeger from the German Society of Internal Medicine presented the Physician Codex to the EFIM GA representatives. The Physicians Codex has been produced by the German Society of Internal Medicine and published in the German journal. The Codex of physicians is intended to help physicians to reflect critically on the effects of economic incentives on their personal field of work and to help guide medical decisions for the patients entrusted to their care.

The German Society intensively support the implementation of the Physicians Codex in Europe with special emphasis of medicine ahead economics in the light of the COVID 19 crisis.

Nicola congratulated Petra on the Physicians' Codex and asked the representatives of the EFIM Member societies to approve the endorsement of the Physicians' Codex.

Members of the EFIM General Assembly approved the endorsement of the Physicians' Codex by majority.

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

Prof. G. Agnelli was pleased to present the progress of the journal for 2020 introducing the new members of the Associate Editors and the Editorial Board. Despite the COVID catastrophe, the journal seemed to be in apparent and good health. Prof. Agnelli pointed out that the contribution of some of EFIM member countries is quite limited. Statistics were reported on the countries of origin, submitted, and rejected manuscripts, focusing on the lack of manuscripts submitted from the north of Europe. Leading countries in submitting papers are Italy followed by China, Spain, United States, France and the other countries. G. Agnelli was extremely pleased to inform the GA members about the increase in the impact factor to 4.329 in 2019 getting closer to the American Journal of Medicine. Prof. Agnelli encouraged the participants to spread the message and promote the journal among the societies members, to submit more manuscripts and to register to receive the EJIM alert system. Furthermore G. Agnelli informed the GA members about the new initiative with the Young Internists publishing papers in EJIM in a new EJIM editorial category called "Young Internist Clinical Insights."

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

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J. Kellett, the Editor-in-Chief of the European Journal of Case Reports in Internal Medicine, reported on the progress of the journal, and the high increase in submission in 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. J. Kellett reported that the origin of submitted articles has been changed receiving many papers from US and the Middle East however Europe is leading with submitted and accepted papers most of the coming from Portugal, followed by Italy, Greece and other European countries. J. Kellett encouraged the GA members to join the EJCRIM Editorial Board which should be widened due to the high increase of the submissions. S Malosio from SMC Media informed the GA members on the new marketing campaign broadening the social media, the launch of the EJCRIM against COVID-19 series, creation of media kit to attract sponsors etc. Moreover S. Malosio announced the new initiatives to be launched that promotes the journal with sponsors: Themed Collections, Themed call for papers, Educational videos, webinars, and others asking the members to be actively involved and support EJCRIM further.

10. Young Internists report (A. Marra)

A. Mara gave brief overview of the current YI activities introducing the YI Assembly which involves 27 members from 31 national societies. A Marra informed the GA regarding the changes in the EFIM Statutes and Bylaws concerning the new structure of the Young Internists that will involve 1 Chair, 1 Secretary and 4 Officers who will be elected by the YI Assembly for one mandate of 2 years. Furthermore, A. Marra pointed out the active participation of the YI within EFIM WGs and the organisation of several webinars in 2020. A Marra announced the launch of the YI Covid-19 Survey focusing on the experiences of working as a doctor during the Covid-19 pandemic across EFIM member countries.

A Marra added that the YI Group is very active on the social media channels and invited all the GA Members to encourage the YI community in their countries to get in touch and follow EFIM YI.

11. Foundation for the Development of Internal Medicine in Europe Report & Clinical Research Course 2019 (D. Sereni)

D. Sereni presented FDIME main activities dedicating the budget to educations, including the ESIM bursaries for the winter school in Finland, and the two research grants given to two young residents. One trainee from Austria received a grant to work in Paris on the topic of Acromegaly and the other trainee from Italy received FDIME grant to work in Sweden on the topic of Autoimmune pancreatitis. Unfortunately, the clinical research seminar had to be cancelled due to the pandemic with a hope to continue in 2021.

D. Sereni was pleased to announce the launch of the FDIME newsletter focusing on COVID-19 that attracted lots of discussions and broadened FDIME database. The

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interest was very high on the social media reaching about 56 000 visitors on the Facebook.

12. ESIM Winter School 2019 report and progress report for 2022 (K. Petterson)

K. Petterson was very pleased to present the results from the 3rd and last Winter school held in Kitila, Finland from 20 - 24 January 2020. The school welcomed 48 trainees from 21 countries and 19 national and international speakers. The school featured similar programme as the previous editions incorporating scientific lectures, workshops and different social activities. K Petterson added that pre-test and post-test were organised on certain topic to evaluate the course development which was very well accepted by the residents. K Petterson was happy to have the possibilities to organise the last school in Kitila before the Covid-19 pandemic. K Petterson congratulated both Directors of the Winter school: Dr. Tuomas Aro and Dr. Mikko Parry, the Co-Directors and all the speakers for organising such a successful school.

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

Prof. R. Gans gave update on the strategy for implementation of the European Curriculum of Internal Medicine and the results from the survey launched. He encouraged all the societies members to fill in the online survey which will remain open for the coming months. R. Gans focused on the Online self-evaluation for accreditation of Training Centres in Internal Medicine in Europe. Additionally, R. Gans informed the GA representatives on the progress for the relaunching of the European Diploma examination in internal medicine currently discussing the exam blueprint and the cost. Furthermore R. Gans, informed the GA representatives on the development of a European educational and learning center in internal medicine using an E-platform. R. Gans demonstrated the E-platform created for EBIM focusing on different interactive features that will assist in building EFIM online community. R. Gans encouraged the GA representatives to register to the EBIM online platform and became active in sharing experiences and networking. Furthermore, he added that the EBIM platform link will be sent to each national society inviting the societies' members to join the platform.

14. Next EFIM General Assembly, ECIM 2021, 18 March - Virtual meeting

The next General Assembly will take place on Thursday, 18 March 2021 during the annual European Congress of Internal Medicine ECIM 2021 which will take place in a virtual format.

15. Any other business:

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No further questions were raised.

N. Montano thanked all the General Assembly members for their participation.
The General Assembly was adjourned at 17h30.

EFIM President
Prof. Nicola Montano

EFIM Secretary General
Prof. Xavier Corbella



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