

ERS

EUROPEAN
RESPIRATORY
SOCIETY

every breath counts

Annual Report

2018-2019

A MESSAGE FROM THE ERS PRESIDENT



TOBIAS WELTE
President

ERS is renowned for its Congress and such visibility in the field of respiratory medicine gives ERS an ever-increasing role worldwide. ERS is expanding its collaboration with regional and national respiratory societies, as well as with key organisations in the health environment such as WHO and EMA. ERS is facing a crucial time as the importance of respiratory diseases is rising globally due to the increasing risks of air pollution and alternative smoking devices, amongst other factors. ERS and its members have a responsibility to inform and support initiatives that will improve this situation. As President, I was pleased to take part in advocacy, education and scientific activities that have been developed since the ERS Congress 2018 in Paris. This report provides members and stakeholders with an overview of our achievements during the financial year from April 2018 to March 2019.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE



CARLOS ROBALO CORDEIRO
Secretary General

ERS offers membership agreements with partner respiratory societies worldwide, offering ERS resources to a broad spectrum of professionals.



36,400* members from over 170 countries

*Individuals with full and active membership only



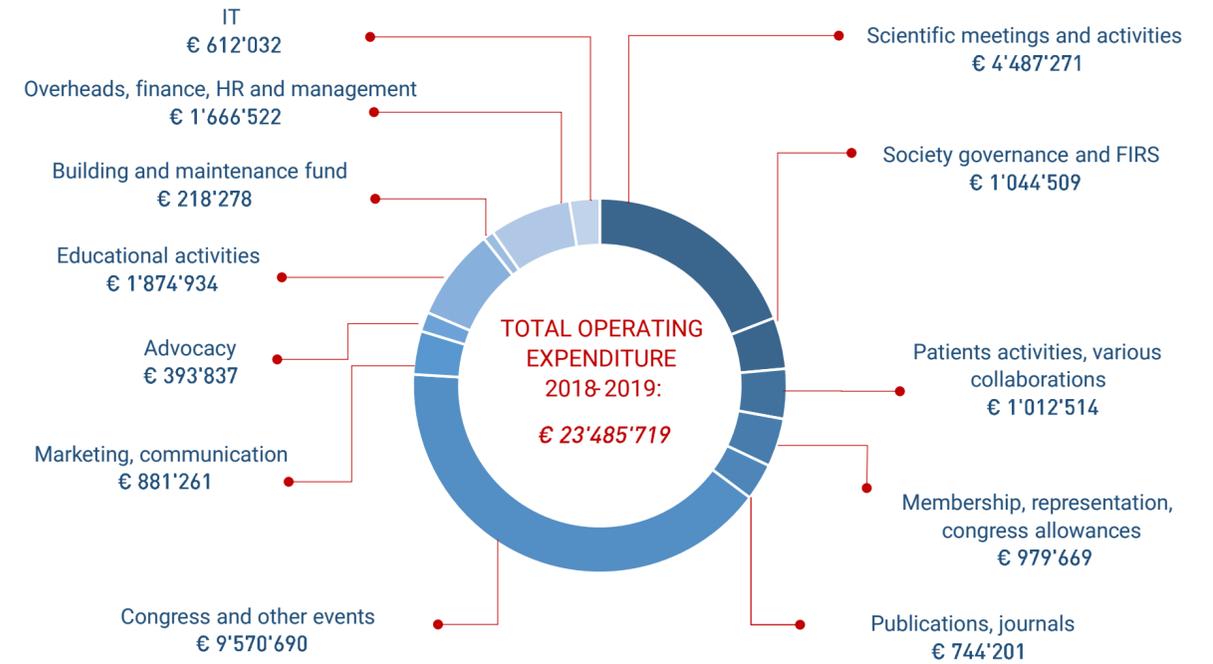
10 new agreements

signed with national/regional respiratory societies

A MESSAGE FROM THE ERS TREASURER



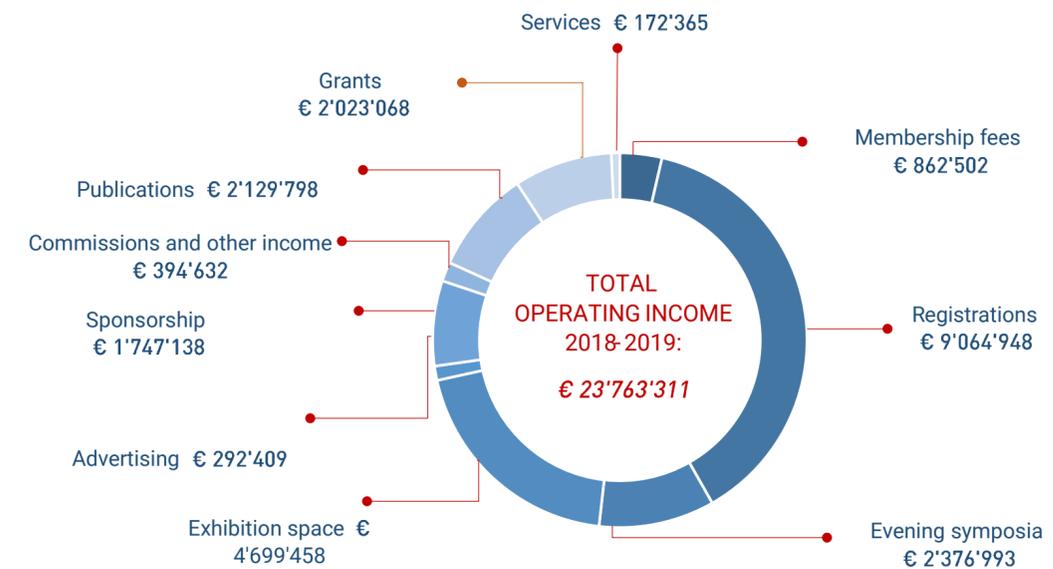
OTTO CHRIS BURGHUBER
Treasurer



[Download Appendix 1: ERS Income Statement and Balance Sheet](#)

[Download Appendix 2: ERS Commercial Partners](#)

[Download Appendix 3: ERS Full audit report](#)



CONGRESS AND CONFERENCES

The ERS International Congress remains the largest meeting in the respiratory field, boasting a cutting-edge scientific and educational programme. The 28th Congress took place in Paris, France, attracting over 22,000 delegates. The programme is designed to address the needs of researchers, clinicians, general practitioners, allied health professionals and patients.

Alongside this flagship event, ERS also runs the annual Lung Science Conference. This event primarily targets early career professionals and aims to showcase cutting-edge research and its translation into clinical solutions. There is also a unique emphasis on mentoring, as younger delegates are given the opportunity to learn from faculty members.

LUNG SCIENCE CONFERENCE



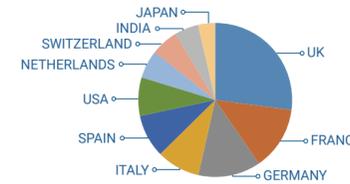
206 delegates

- The 17th Lung Science Conference entitled “Mechanisms of acute exacerbation of respiratory disease” took place on 7–10 March, 2019 in Estoril, Portugal.
- 10 awards given including the William MacNee Award (for the winner of the Young Investigator session), the Best Oral Presentation Award and eight Distinguished Poster Awards.

ENDORSED EVENTS

ERS is frequently asked to endorse educational and scientific meetings that fulfill standards of performance and scientific quality. In 2018–2019, 41 requests were received and 24 event programmes were endorsed.

ERS CONGRESS



22,828 delegates attended the Congress



441 scientific and educational sessions



6091 submitted and 4393 accepted abstracts



139 sponsored delegates and 32 grants and awards offered

- Challenging clinical cases sessions allowing case authors to present their submitted cases and participants to understand the history, pathology, analysis and treatment of complex clinical cases in different subject areas.
- Lungs on Fire sessions featuring a panel of experts being put to the test against the audience to diagnose various clinical cases.
- Educational Forum in a new format, moderated by Vivienne Parry OBE, and led by a panel of experts to facilitate a lively and interactive discussion with the audience on the topic of education in respiratory medicine.
- The Game Zone offering 7 skills stations, 4 online quizzes and 32 clinical cases. The hands-on area with individual work stations were connected to the ERS online self-assessment learning platform.
- Poster Discussion Session offering a combination of a speed slide presentation followed by a thematic discussion based on paper posters displayed in the room.
- Respiratory medicine meets other disciplines sessions addressing the links and crossover between respiratory medicine and other disciplines.
- Therapeutic breakthrough sessions involving a number of ERS assemblies and covering the areas of respiratory intensive care, paediatrics, allied healthcare professionals and thoracic oncology in order to discuss the latest therapeutic advances across different areas.

SCIENCE

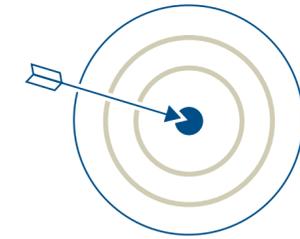


GUY BRUSSELLE
Science Council Chair

ERS scientific activities put an emphasis on respiratory disease research and strengthening the clinical evidence base. This mission spans a range of activities including: fellowship opportunities; scientific conferences and seminars; publications; endorsement of pragmatic trials; funding for guidelines, statements and technical standards; Clinical Research Collaborations; and the ERS Research Agency, which facilitates respiratory research through the coordination and support of the respiratory research community – assisting its efforts to obtain funding.



The ERJ 2018 impact factor is 11.807



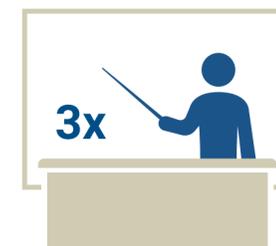
The ERR received its first impact factor in 2018 of 4.929



47 fellowships granted



8 published guidelines, statements and technical standards



3 Research Seminars held



7 accepted CRC applications (including 3 project renewals)

EDUCATION



DAIANA STOLZ
Education Council Chair

The mission of ERS Education is to supply medical professionals across Europe with access to high-quality training and educational resources. This covers a range of activities from curriculum development courses online learning assessments and publications.

This year's milestones included: the development of a CPD project; the launch of the ENGAGE qualitative study; the development of a thoracic ultrasound training curriculum, the launch of Respiratory Digests; and the agreement of a PhD partnership with IML Bern.



16 courses held including 9 skills courses



3 adult and paediatric ERS HERMES exams.
234 participants in total



Five ERS HERMES self-assessment courses delivered in the Germany, Netherlands, Portugal and Switzerland



5 Respiratory Digest articles



- 3 certified training programmes:
- 2 endobronchial ultrasound (EBUS) programmes
 - 11 regional spirometry programmes
 - 5 respiratory sleep training modules

ADVOCACY



Jørgen Vestbo
Advocacy Council Chair

The mission of ERS is to promote respiratory health and alleviate suffering from respiratory disease. As the old saying goes “if you don’t stand for something, you’ll fall for anything”. Similar to previous years – ERS has shown this year an increasing passion to put forward its stance on the issues affecting lung health in as many arenas as possible. Whether it is interacting with the UN, WHO or EU or it is presenting a collective advocacy plan to the ERS International Congress, the desire to promote respiratory health and stand for scientific excellence has never been greater.



6 awareness-raising events
at the European Commission
and Parliament



Over 30 statements and positions
launched together with partners
and alliances



1 collective advocacy plan
launched by ERS leadership
10 principles for lung health



More than 20 high level meetings
with governments, agencies and health-related
organisations in the promotion of lung health

- ERS stepped up its role as a key member of an active Biomed Alliance participating in many taskforces.
- Recognising the seriousness of the climate crisis, the Paris declaration on climate, environment and respiratory health was launched by ERS at the International Congress in Paris.
- ERS participated actively in the first WHO Global Conference on Air Pollution and Health and launched a joint campaign on air quality commitments with the European Lung Foundation.
- A successful Presidential Summit on redesigning the future of patient care was organised in Athens, Greece.
- The official ERS heated tobacco products position was promoted throughout the year and presented at a World No Tobacco Day event.
- ERS attended the third UN high level meeting on NCDs at the UN in New York.
- ERS held new interactive awareness raising events on Asthma and COPD in the EU quarter in Brussels.
- As part of its commitment to a tobacco free world, ERS carried out tobacco cessation training together with the WHO in Nigeria.

EUROPEAN LUNG FOUNDATION



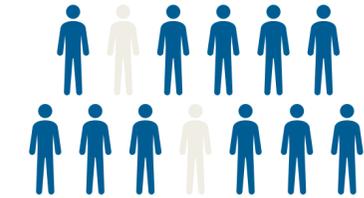
ISABEL SARAIVA
ELF Chair

The European Lung Foundation is dedicated to bringing patients and the public together with respiratory professionals to improve respiratory health. This activity includes actively involving patients in healthcare by ensuring the patient voice is incorporated at every level of ERS activities as well as disseminating the highest quality patient resources and communicating and translating the work of ERS to those outside the respiratory field.

- 3 new Patient Advisory Groups in sleep apnoea, COPD and bronchiectasis in children
- New website launched focused on patient priorities for CHILD
- Patients as part of RESPIRE 3 interview panel
- Translation of “your lungs at work” occupational tool into German, Dutch, French and Portuguese



3 new resources produced this year that are now available in 29 languages



Patients involved in 25 task forces and 10 CRCs



216 new learner registrations for the European Patient Ambassador Programme



66,000 factsheet downloads from ELF website



55,500 visitors to the ELF website each month



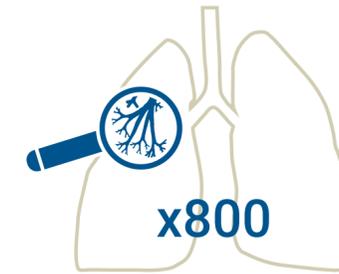
Social media following growth of 40% on Facebook and 25% on Twitter

HEALTHY LUNGS FOR LIFE



Healthy Lungs for Life is one of the largest ever lung health campaigns raising awareness of the importance of healthy lungs to healthcare professionals scientists primary care patients policymakers and the public through a full range of events projects and promotional activities.

The campaign theme of 'breathe clean air' was launched at the ERS Congress 2018 in Paris.



Over 800 members of the public had their lungs tested



2018 ELF Award presented to Anne Hidalgo, Mayor of Paris and Chair of the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group, to recognise C40's dedication to improving air quality in numerous major cities



First international grants awarded for Healthy Lungs for Life events



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