



A N N U A L
R E P O R T

2017 – 2018



ERS

EUROPEAN
RESPIRATORY
SOCIETY

every breath counts

A MESSAGE FROM THE ERS PRESIDENT



MINA GAGA
President

I was delighted to begin my presidency at ERS at the end of an excellent international Congress in Milan. The success of the Congress mirrors the year we have had; we have delivered a wealth of activities, including new and innovative initiatives, and provided a catalogue of publications – all feeding into our mission to promote lung health and drive standards for respiratory medicine through the areas of science, education and advocacy. These successes are reflective of the hard work and commitment of ERS members, officers and staff year-round. This work has continued and I'm pleased to say that many successful activities and initiatives have been ongoing, crossing over the dates of this report but still within the dates of my presidency, such as new educational initiatives and scientific collaborations that are both high-standard and geared to actively include our members, and a very engaging presidential summit based on patient views and needs – these things will feature in the next report. The current report provides members and stakeholders with an overview of our achievements during the financial year from April 2017 to March 2018. Congratulations to all; I am proud of our Society!

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.



36,000* members
from over 160 countries

**Individuals with full and active membership only*

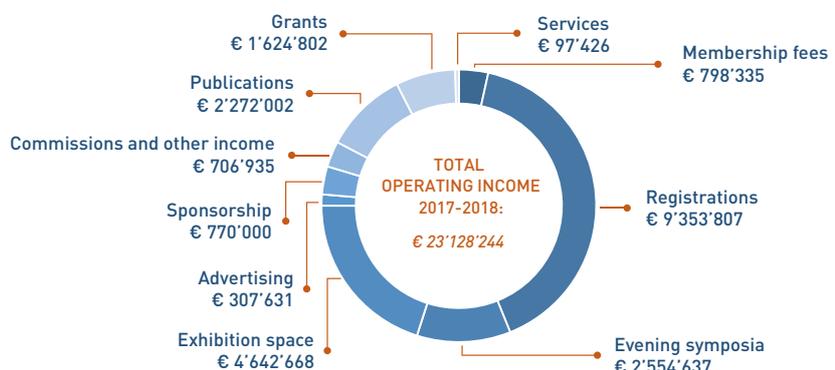
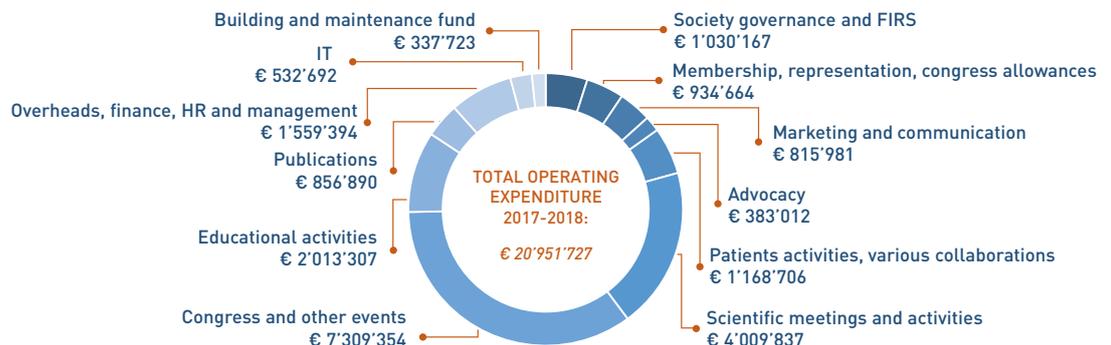


15 new agreements
signed with national/regional
respiratory societies

FINANCIAL REPORT



OTTO CHRIS BURGHUBER
Treasurer



Download Appendix 1: ERS Income Statement and Balance Sheet
Download Appendix 2: ERS Commercial Partners

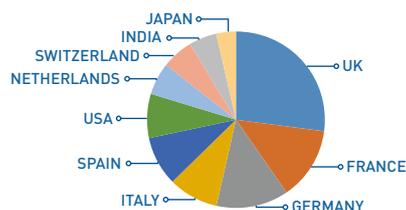
A full audit report from the Society is available to download online:
www.ersnet.org/accounts

CONGRESS AND CONFERENCES

The ERS International Congress remains the largest meeting in the respiratory field, boasting a cutting-edge scientific and educational programme. The 27th Congress took place in Milan, Italy, 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.

ERS CONGRESS



22,221 delegates attended the Congress



445 scientific and educational sessions



5590 submitted and 3897 accepted abstracts



141 sponsored delegates and 25 grants and awards offered

NEW FEATURES

- 8 state-of-the-art sessions offering high-quality presentations delivered by world-leading clinical experts.
- Live endoscopy sessions offering real-time insight in to some of respiratory medicine's most important clinical procedures – providing delegates with an opportunity to witness procedures carried out by experts followed by question and answer sessions.
- Continued development of professional development sessions with a dedicated session room at Congress.
- After a successful trial in 2016, a new format postgraduate course was rolled out, with group exercises and greater faculty/participant interaction.

LUNG SCIENCE CONFERENCE



206 delegates

- The 16th Lung Science Conference entitled “Cell-matrix interactions in lung disease and regeneration” took place on 8–11 March, 2018 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 fulfil standards of performance and scientific quality. In 2017–2018, 49 requests were received and 28 event programmes were endorsed.

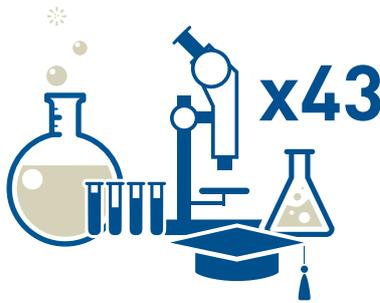


GUY BRUSSELLE
Science Council Chair

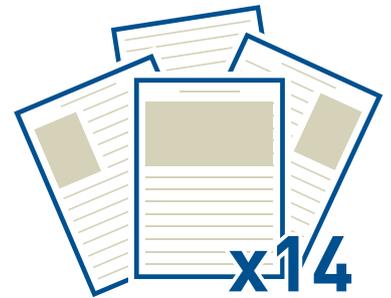
ERS scientific activities put an emphasis on respiratory disease research and strengthening the clinical evidence base. This mission spans a range of activities including: fellowship opportunities; scientific conferences and seminars; publications; funding for guidelines, statements and technical standards; 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.



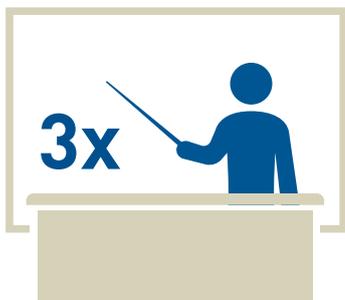
The *ERJ* 2017 impact factor is 12.242 – a new record



43 fellowships granted



14 published guidelines, statements and technical standards



3 Research Seminars held



6 accepted CRC applications (including 2 project renewals)



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.

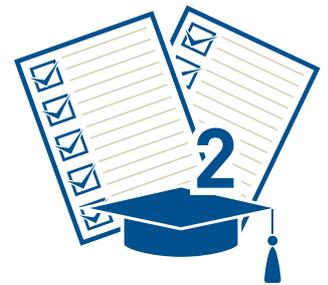
This year's milestones included: the implementation of a new Learning Management System; publication of the adult respiratory medicine syllabus update; the launch of a new training programme in respiratory sleep medicine in conjunction with the Sleep and Breathing conference; the launch of the self-assessment course based on the ERS HERMES examination question pool; and the development of links between educational courses and resources including reports in *Breathe* and scientific articles on Respipedia.



18 courses held including 10 skills courses and 1 online course



3 adult and paediatric ERS HERMES exams. 242 participants in total (highest to date)



Two ERS HERMES self-assessment courses delivered in the Netherlands and Germany



75 articles available in Respipedia



3 certified training programmes:

- 2 endobronchial ultrasound (EBUS) programmes
- 10 regional spirometry programmes
- 5 respiratory sleep training modules



CHRISTINA GRATIOU
Advocacy Council Chair

ERS Advocacy supports the Society’s mission to promote respiratory health and alleviate suffering from respiratory disease. This involves a wide range of activities, from events such as advocacy workshops, policy roundtables with MEPs and summits.

This year ERS has established itself as a key partner at EU and national level by giving input to future EU policies and regularly meeting with government/EU officials. ERS also used its scientific expertise to strengthen civil society’s knowledge on lung health-related topics.



3 awareness-raising events at the European Parliament and the European Commission



Over 20 statements/positions launched together with partners



15 International and national events attended by ERS officers



10 high-level meetings between ERS and EU institutions/government representatives

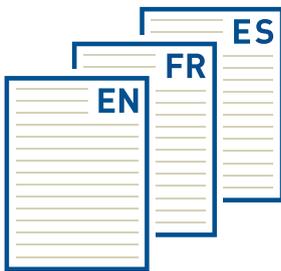
KEY MILESTONES

- ERS became an essential partner on TB at EU level by officially joining the European Commission’s Civil Society Forum on TB, HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis as well as the WHO Regional Collaborating Committee on TB control and care (RCC-TB).
- ERS raised awareness on tobacco control in Iberian and Latin-American countries with the creation of two comprehensive reports and the organisation of a high-level policy event in Madrid, Spain.
- ERS gave strong visibility to chronic respiratory diseases with an impactful campaign on COPD, together with spirometry testing at the European Commission.
- ERS contributed to the preparation of the new EU research programme by presenting its scientific recommendations to the European Commission.
- ERS offered its expertise to civil society and policymakers with the organisation of a master class event on air quality.
- ERS strongly advocated, together with partners, for strong EU leadership on health ahead of the next EU multiannual financial framework.

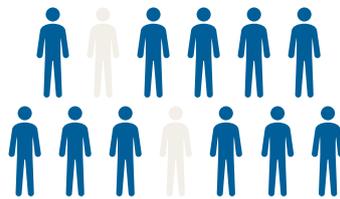


ISABEL SARAIVA
ELF Chair

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.



6 new resources produced this year that are now available in 28 languages



Patients involved in 19 task forces and 6 CRCs – with a total of 2,972 patients inputting in ERS activities



404 new ambassadors for the European Patient Ambassador Programme



55,000 visitors to the ELF website each month



36,215 views of ELF resources for people travelling with oxygen



>16,000 users taking the ELF quiz on occupational lung conditions via social media

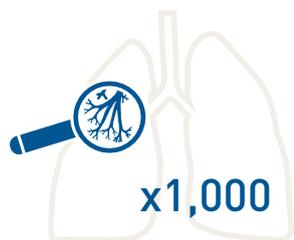
KEY MILESTONES

- ERS awarded The European Association Award for the Most Innovative Development for the creation of the European Lung Foundation
- ELF advising in patient input at key conferences and for other medical organisations
- First patient co-Chairs in ERS's SHARP CRC
- European Patient Ambassador Programme (EPAP) translated into German and Italian
- New websites launched focusing on patient priorities for bronchiectasis and LAM
- ELF occupational tool launched in English

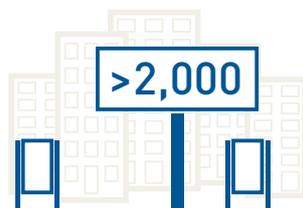
HEALTHY LUNGS FOR LIFE

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 launched at the ERS Congress in Milan focussed on smoking cessation.



Over 1,000 members of the public had their lungs tested



>2,000 sites in the city were branded with 5 messages in English and Italian over 22 days



113 pieces of media coverage were achieved, including 6 national and 14 local Italian newspapers, TV and radio

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