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# JANUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER

*The European Society for Paediatric Anaesthesiology*

ISSUE #25



**Dear colleagues, dear ESPA members,**

on behalf of the ESPA Executive Board, I'm wishing you a very happy and successful New Year! We hope that you have had a peaceful Christmas Holiday with a couple of quiet days away from clinical duty.

As the New Year kicked in, our Executive Board has met in Prague on January 11th to discuss projects and challenges ESPA will face in the upcoming next months. In this Newsletter, we would like to share the most important aspects of these discussions with you.

Sincerely,

Laszlo Vutskits  
ESPA President



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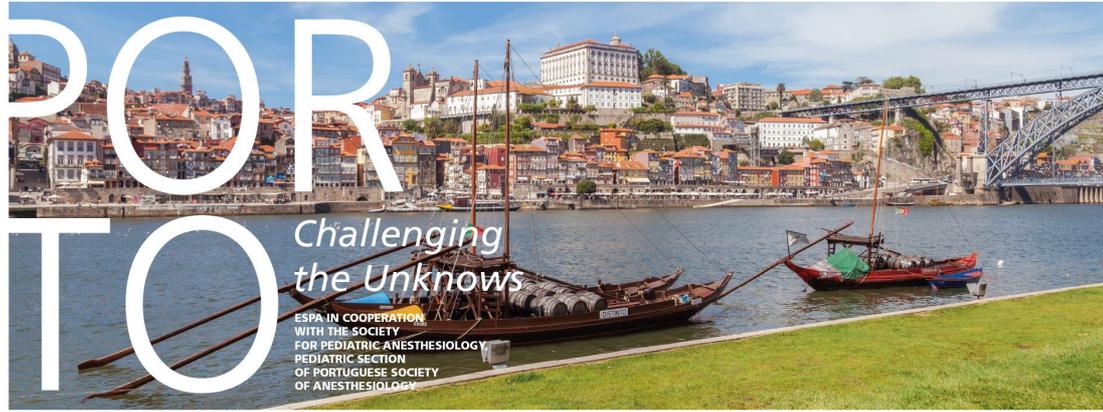


Website



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**ANNUAL MEETING, PORTO, PORTUGAL  
OCTOBER 22nd - 24th, 2020**



## 12<sup>th</sup> European congress for Paediatric Anaesthesiology

October 22–24, 2020

Alfândega Porto Congress Centre

[www.euroespa.com](http://www.euroespa.com)



**Our Annual Meeting** will be held at the **Alfândega Porto Congress Center**, a beautiful historical building which formerly served as a fishmarket alongside the Douro River. The weather is usually still warm and sunny toward the end of October in Porto – a nice opportunity to enjoy some last moments of Summer weather before winter.

**The scientific program will be available on our website ([www.esparto2020.com](http://www.esparto2020.com)) early February.** The keynote speaker for the Annual Meeting will be Professor Markus Weiss from Zurich, Switzerland. Professor Weiss is a leading figure of the European paediatric anaesthesia community and the founder of the SafeTots Initiative. In his talk, he will give his personal view on the future of paediatric anaesthesia. **Based on feedback from our membership, a whole scientific panel will be devoted to the perioperative care of the neonate.** We will also provide insights into the new guidelines and recommendations in paediatric anaesthesia, challenge long standing myths and discuss future challenges of our specialty. Please check for the preliminary program on our website from early February.

We would also like to encourage all congress participants to take part in the Congress Dinner. This dinner is aimed to bring together all participants and is definitely not an invitation-only selective event. You dress casual, no jacket required! To emphasize this further, we have decided not to call it “Gala Dinner” anymore but “ESPA Dinner”, and we are aiming to keep costs lower than previous events. **This year’s ESPA Dinner will be held in a famous Porto wine cellar – an event definitely not to be missed!**

## MEMBERSHIP PAYMENTS: NEW RULES AND VALIDITY

The natural evolution of ESPA Membership options over the past 10 years has led to a complex membership payment system that prompted confusion amongst many of our members. The introduction of the dual membership, where it is the national society who pays its members’ contribution to ESPA, further complicated the system (over 30

potential membership categories).

Therefore, for the sake of simplicity, the ESPA Executive Board has decided the following changes:

1. There will be **two membership categories** for annual fee payments
  - (i) regular membership
  - (ii) dual membership. The two membership categories have the same rights within ESPA.
  
2. Regular membership is paid by those members whose national societies do not pay for dual membership. **The cost of regular membership** is currently **50 Euros** per financial year. **Low income countries have a reduced rate** of regular membership (please consult our website).
  
3. **Dual or Associate membership** is paid by the national societies or associations. “Dual members” should pay their annual cotisation for their respective national societies or associations and it is the national society or association who pays the contribution of its “dual members” directly to ESPA. The cost of dual membership is **15 Euros** per financial year.

**An important change concerns the period of membership. Membership** can now be paid on an annual basis only and **covers the period of the financial year of the society (July 1st to June 30th)**. This means that a one year membership extends from July 1st of a given year until June 30th of the next year. **Practically, for members who paid their membership fee for 2020, this means we will extend their membership until June 30th 2021. For members who have already paid their membership for 2020, their membership will be valid until June 30th 2021 automatically.**

We will contact each of our members on an individual basis regarding membership details.

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## ESPA GENERAL ASSEMBLY PRAGUE

APRIL 21st 2020, 6 PM

To comply with the legal requirements for changing the Deed noted above, we need to convene a General Assembly prior to our Annual Meeting in Porto. The reasons for this General Assembly are twofold:

1. **acceptance vote of the 2018-2019 financial statement.** As you remember, you have recently provided us with a positive decision on the acceptance of our financial statement for the 2018-2019 financial period via e-voting. However, to be completely valid, voting should be done within a General Assembly format.

2. **acceptance vote of the revised “Deed of Formation of an Association”** document which is needed before the new ESPA Executive Board election (May 2020).

**We have set the General Assembly for April 21<sup>st</sup> at 6 pm in Prague.** Representatives of the Executive Board will be present in Prague to chair the General Assembly. You are kindly invited to join either in person (at your own expenses) or via a conference call (we will provide you with the dial-in details in due time). Unfortunately, for legal reasons, this is the only way to proceed further. Another General Assembly will of course be held in Porto on Friday October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

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## ESPA ELECTION 2020

**The new ESPA Executive Board Election will take place in May 2020.** The timeline for the election process, including candidacies and the voting procedure will be published on our website very soon.

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## ESA ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

The European Society of Anaesthesiology is keen to offer an associate membership to all ESPA members. This comes at no financial costs but needs the approval, on an individual basis, of each and every ESPA member. You will soon receive an e-mail from us where you can confirm/deny your interest in the ESA Associate membership. ESPA will only provide ESA with e-mail addresses of the members who confirmed their interest for associate membership.

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