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OCTOBER 2026 NEWSLETTER

The European Society for Paediatric Anaesthesiology

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PRESIDENT´S WORD

October 29, 2026

Dear ESPA Members and Friends,

One month has passed since the ESPA Conference in Madrid. The numbers speak for themselves, highlighting the success of this event. 643 participants from 62 different countries attended 9 plenary sessions, 22 PBLs, and 16 workshops. Furthermore, a record-breaking 333 abstracts were presented from all over the world; this testifies to an unprecedented level of interest and engagement.

The evaluations were positive overall, with the strongest signal being that the congress should offer more accessible scientific content in the main program and improve the capacity of problem-based learning sessions and workshops. This encourages us to bring ESPA conferences to the next level in upcoming years.

Beyond the numbers, what stands out most is the openness and collegiality that

characterized the conference. We are grateful to all participants for engaging in honest discussions about both successes and challenges. Equally inspiring were the excellent scientific contributions by both upcoming and well-established colleagues, who offered state-of-the-art content and gave us a glimpse of what will influence our clinical practice in the future.

A special thank you to our Spanish colleagues, who helped us tremendously with on-site arrangements and provided excellent speakers and input for panels, workshops, and PBLs.

And finally, our sincere gratitude to all the pharmaceutical companies and industry partners who contributed to the success of this year's ESPA Congress in Madrid.

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Looking Ahead

During the coming months, the ESPA Executive Board will focus on several key priorities:

- Planning the scientific programme for ESPA 2027 in Riga, with particular attention to expanding opportunities for problem-based learning sessions and workshops.
- Building on connections to other societies and initiatives to continuously improve clinical practice and to encourage commitment to high standards of care, innovation, and multidisciplinary collaboration. For instance, ESPA has entered into discussions with APAGBI regarding closer research collaboration. A particular focus will be cooperation within PARNet, creating new opportunities for collaborative research and knowledge exchange across our societies.
- Reviewing ESPA's long-term financial strategy to ensure that membership fees and congress revenues are invested in ways that best support our mission, including education, research, scholarships, and future initiatives.
- Delivering three ESPA webinars during winter and spring, beginning with a session dedicated to the important topic of pain management.

Thank you for your continued engagement and support. We look forward to another productive year together.

With best regards,

Nicola G. Clausen
ESPA President

OTHER EVENTS



PROSA 2026,
September 10-11, 2026, Maastricht
May 1-3, 2026, Montreal
https://www.prosaconference.com/

V Euro Anesthesiology and Critical Care Congress,
presented by IARS and SOCCA
October 19-20, 2026, Berlin
https://www.euroespa.com/event/v-euro-anesthesiology-and-critical-care-congress/



2027 Annual Meeting, presented by IARS and SOCCA
April 30-May 2, 2026, Chicago
May 1-3, 2026, Montreal
https://meetings.iars.org/



The International Assembly for Pediatric Anesthesiology (IAPA), 2029
April 18-21, 2029, London

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