

Minutes EORS General Assembly 2024

Date: Friday, September 20th 2024, 9:00-10:00 CEST

Location: Auditorium ground floor, Aalborg, DK

Members of the EORS Executive Committee

President:	Holger Jahr
1 st Vice President:	Boyko Gueorguiev
2 nd Vice President:	Eduardo García-Rey
Secretary General:	Gabriela Graziani
Treasurer:	Stijn Bolink
Past president:	Gianluca Vadalà

Opening of the General Assembly

1. Welcome of the President

The total number of EORS members participating at the General Assembly (GA) is 61. EORS President Holger Jahr welcomes all participants and opens the GA by presenting the agenda of this year:

1. Welcome from the President
2. Approval of the Minutes of the previous GA (Porto, September 28th 2023)
3. Report of the President, Holger Jahr
4. Report of the Secretary General, Gabriela Graziani
5. Report of the Treasurer, Stijn Bolink
6. Cash Auditor report and nomination
7. Discharge of the Treasurer
8. Discharge of the EORS Executive Committee (2022–2024)
9. Election of new EORS Executive Committee
10. Membership
11. New initiatives
12. Next EORS meetings
13. Other topics

2. Approval of previous GA minutes

The Minutes of the previous GA, held Thursday, 28 September 2023, 17:00–18:31 WEST (Local Time Porto), are presented and accepted without objection or abstention. The President asks the audience if any additional points should be added to the agenda, without response.

3. Report of the President

Holger Jahr introduces the Agenda to the audience, the current EORS Executive Committee 2022–2024, and thanks all for their support.

Ex-Officios members and Ambassadors

He specially thanks our current Ex-Officio members. New members and roles/positions are presented. The composition of the Ex-Officio functions are listed as follows:

1. New Investigator Committee (Luca Ambrosio)
2. Awards Committee (Girish Pattapa, Gabriela Graziani, Stijn Bolink)
3. Sponsoring and Promotion Committee (Gianluca Vadalà, Stijn Bolink)
4. Training and Education Committee (Laura Saldaña, Fabrizio Russo)
5. Equal Representation Committee (Elizabeth Balmayor, Zhen Li, Clara Ruiz-Fernandez)
6. Social Media Committee (Claudia Siverino, Melanie Haffner-Luntzer, Mehar Dhillon)
7. Webinars Committee (Girish Pattapa, Luca Ambrosio, Claudia Siverino, Shima Gholinezhad)

Ambassadors are acknowledged, and newly nominated ambassadors introduced. The Ambassadors for 2024–2026 are listed as follows:

- EORS Ambassador for Austria, Sylvia Nürnberger
- EORS Ambassador for Finland, Michael Gasik
- EORS Ambassador for France, Jerome Guicheux
- EORS Ambassador for Germany, Britt Wildemann
- EORS Ambassador for Greece, Maria Chatzinikolaïdou
- EORS Ambassador for Ireland, Dimitrios Zeugolis
- EORS Ambassador for Italy, Julietta V. Rau
- EORS Ambassador for the Netherlands, Martijn van Griensven
- EORS Ambassador for Portugal, Manuela E. Gomes
- EORS Ambassador for Romania, Julian Vasile Antoniac
- EORS Ambassador for Taiwan, Feng-Sheng Wang
- EORS Ambassador for Turkey, Fehmi Volkan Öztuna
- EORS Ambassador for USA, Brian Johnston

Holger Jahr describes the role and requirements for Ambassadors and encourages to apply or nominate colleagues through email sent to eors.secretariat@gmail.com.

EORS Executive Committee meetings 2024

The EORS Executive Committee has met regularly on monthly online meetings and twice in person (during the site visit and the Annual Meeting in Aalborg, on January 22nd and September 18th, respectively).

ICORS representatives

ICORS Steering Committee is presented: Bernd Grimm, ICORS President (EORS); Gun-Il Im, ICORS Past President (KORS); Hamish Simpson ICORS President Elect (BORS); Brian Johnstone, Chair FIOR (ORS); Geoff Richards, Past-Chair FIOR (AO Foundation); Sharon Smith-Terry Secretary (ORS); plus 2 members of each member society. The Steering Committee regularly meets through video conferences and in person during the ORS Annual Meeting. Our EORS representatives at ICORS, Holger Jahr and Boyko Gueorguiev, participated regularly in the ICORS video conference meetings and actively contributed to, among others, the preparations for ICORS 2025 Meeting in Adelaide (Australia).

EORS Current FIORs @ ICORS

The President thanks our FIORs (currently 12) for their service and support to the Society: Nicola Baldini, Denitsa Docheva, Richie Gill, Enrique Gomez-Barrena, Bernd Grimm, Thomas Grupp, Geoff Richards, Klemens Trieb, Catherine Van Der Straeten, Nico Verdonschot, Britt Wildemann, Dimitrios Zeugolis.

EORS 2023

The President acknowledges the great success of the EORS 2023 meeting in Porto, with 510 registrations from 45 countries, involving 12 International Orthopaedic Research Societies. He thanks the organizers for the great job done.

EORS @ EFORT 2024, Hamburg

EORS organized a booth at the EFFORT congress to promote current and future initiatives and increase membership. The EORS Executive Committee has contributed to the abstract review process, and to several initiatives and sessions during the Congress, including EORS-endorsed Special Society Session.

EORS became a member of the EFORT Education Committee (2023–2025).

EFORT discontinued our annual compensation for organizing sister society sessions, however, EORS will continue contributing Special Society Symposia to EFORT (2024–2026).

EORS and NETWOARK (and future EUSOA society)

The EORS President emphasizes the growing collaboration between EORS and NetwoArk, which includes a dedicated symposium at EORS 2024, following the successful experience at EORS 2023.

4. Report of the General Secretary

EORS Executive Committee site visit to Aalborg

Gabriela Graziani reports on the successful site visit held in Aalborg on January 21st and 22nd 2024. During the site visit, a semi-virtual EORS Executive Committee meeting has been held.

One large live meeting has been organized on September 18th 2024, bringing together EORS' Ex-Officios and Ambassadors with excellent feedback and participation, to discuss past activities and future plans.

EORS Aalborg

Data is presented about the registrations for EORS 2024. The congress had 380 registered participants, 120 of which are new investigators. Guest Nation was Nordic Orthopaedic Federation. Participants were welcomed from 32 countries. Among these, strong participation from China, USA, Japan and Korea is appreciated. The Secretary General thanks the organizers for the successful organization and the important clinical component on the congress. The organization of the sessions between clinical, biomechanics, clinical bridges, and biology/biomaterials appears very well balanced, with 8 symposia and 6 free papers sessions on clinical topics, 5 symposia and 5 free papers sessions on biomechanics, 8 symposia and 5 free papers sessions on clinical bridges, and 5 symposia and 5 free papers sessions on biology/biomaterials. In total, 7 plenary lectures were held.

EORS webinar series

Gabriela Graziani, on behalf of the EORS Executive Committee, expresses a special thank to the organizers of the webinars series (Luca Ambrosio, Laura Saldaña, Girish Pattapa, Fabrizio Russo). The EORS new webinars are well received by the membership, reflected by a high attendance rate (40–50 participants per webinar). Next series of monthly webinars will be announced soon. She asks the GA participants to propose their ideas by emailing webinar@eors.info.

New Investigator (NI) session and event in Porto

The chair of NI committee is acknowledged for the intense activity throughout the year, and for the organization of events at the EORS Annual Meeting in Aalborg, including the get-together event and two sessions – the NI Award Session and the NI Symposium “How to deal with failure?”. The organization of these events has been possible thanks to the support and commitment of the local organizers and in particular, of Dr. Maria Tirta, who has been acknowledged too. Finally, all EORS New Investigators are thanked for their active and numerous participation at the NI events. Congratulations are expressed to Simao P.B. Texeira, Nazarin Daneshvarhashjin and Giuseppe Francesco Papalia for being selected for the Special Award.

A high attendance (approx. 80 participants) was also registered at the New Investigators Outreach event, which was merged this year (as in 2023) with the ON Foundation event.

Equal representation session

The Equal Representation Committee is thanked for organizing a well-attended session.

ON Foundation and EORS

EORS thanks ON Foundation for providing several awards, including 10 ON/EORS Education Grants for travel support (€ 500 each), the ON Orthoregeneration Research Award (€ 1,000 best “Orthoregeneration Paper” presented at the EORS 2024 Annual Meeting), and the Kick-Start Grant (joint session and CHF 10,000 for the winning presentation). An EORS & ON Symposium was also organized at the EORS 2024 Annual Meeting.

EORS Administration

The General Secretary thanks our secretariat, run by Beatriz Sais, for her support with the website services & newsletters, membership system management, events promotion, financial transactions and archive organization.

EORS Journal

The EORS journal is Bone & Joint Research, lead by the Editor-in-Chief Prof. Hamish Simpson.

5. Report of the Treasurer

1. Report of the Cash Auditors

Both EORS cash auditors (2023–2024), Daniele Ghezzi and Maria Tirta, reviewed the balance sheets and original receipts, and verified completeness of receipts and correctness of the balance. Both proposed to accept the accounting for the year 2024 and to discharge the treasurer.

2. Report of the Treasurer

Balance sheets

EORS Treasurer Stijn Bolink presents the financial balance sheets of EORS since the Annual Meeting 2023 in Porto.

EORS Budget 2023–2024

Expenses comprise the EORS NI fees (€ 550) and travel grants (€ 1000), bank expenses (€ 204), EFORT booth (€ 946), secretarial work (€2874), EORS Executive Committee expenses (€ 8317), webservice and webinars (€ 917), lawyer and tax declaration (€ 1602), making it a total of **€ 16,464**.

Income was generated through membership fees and profit of ICORS 2022 (€ 14,946), seed money, membership and profit of EORS 2023 (€ 40,000) and the membership fees not linked to conferences (€ 1519), for a total of **€ 56,585**. The expenses were lower than those estimated (€ 19,700) and the profit higher (expected profit € 40,500), making the balance much higher than the expectations. The balance during the Porto General Assembly was € 16,722 and the balance in September 2024 (Aalborg GA) is **€ 56,723**.

EORS Estimated Budget 2024–2025

It is expected that the expenses will balance the income during the period until the next Annual Meeting. Expenses comprise Travel Grants, including ICORS symposia (€ 2000), NI Event (€ 1000), bank account (€ 250), EFORT booth (1000), administration/secretary (€ 3000), EORS Executive Committee expenses (5000), web services and website (€ 1500), lawyer and tax declaration (€ 3000), at a total of € 17,200.

Expected income is generated through membership fees and expected profit from EORS 2024 Aalborg (€ 15,000), and membership fees (€ 2000), at a total of € 17,000.

The expected budget for 2025 is **€ 56,523**.

6. Discharge of the Treasurer

The Treasurer is discharged.

7. Discharge of the other ExCom members

The EORS Executive Committee is discharged.

8. Election of new EORS Executive Committee

Holger Jahr, who will automatically become past president, presents the 2024 elections. The proposals for the new Executive Committee are:

- President: Boyko Georguiev (CH). The nomination is approved by the audience with 58 votes.

- First Vice-President: Eduardo Garcia-Rey (SP). The nomination is approved by the audience with 58 votes.
- Second Vice-President: Sylvia Nurnberger (AU). The nomination is approved by the audience with 59 votes.
- Secretary General: Gabriela Graziani (IT). The nomination is approved by the audience with 58 votes.
- Treasurer: Stijn Bolink (NL). The nomination is approved by the audience with 58 votes.

Votes are counted by Holger Jahr, Gianluca Vadalà, Eduardo Garcia-Rey (except for vice-president voting), Stijn Bolink (except for treasurer voting).

Holger Jahr thanks the audience and congratulates the new board.

Gianluca Vadalà, leaving the Executive Committee, gives a speech, expressing his future support for EORS Society activities.

9. Membership

For details on how to become an EORS member, information is available on the website www.eors.info under the tab “Members”. Here, memberships can be started or renewed by paying the membership fee. EORS membership can also be started, or renewed, simply by registering to the corresponding EORS Annual Meeting. Membership can be opted out by flagging the relevant box during registration.

10. EORS initiatives and awards

Eight awards will be assigned and announced during the closing ceremony: Best overall oral presentation of the meeting will receive the Edward R. Valstar Award. NI awards will include: Best Biology NI Oral Presentation & NI Poster; Best Biomaterials and Biomechanics NI Oral Presentation & NI Poster, Best Clinics NI Oral Presentation & NI Poster; EORS 2024 NI Award.

The President reminds the New Investigators to apply for the EORS and ICORS grants, by checking the deadlines and procedures on the EORS website.

He emphasizes the importance of collaborations with such organizations as the ON Foundation and their commitment to diverse awards and grants. The Education grantees are congratulated, while the other awards will be announced during the closing ceremony.

11. Next EORS Annual Meetings and call for future applications

The next EORS Annual Meeting will be held in Davos and chaired by Boyko Gueorguiev, who presented some preliminary details. EORS 2026 will be held in Madrid, chaired by Eduardo Garcia-Rey and Laura Saldaña, EORS 2027 will be in Crete, chaired by Maria Chatzinikolaidou.

The call for hosting the upcoming Annual Meetings from 2028 onwards will be launched.

The EORS President inquires if any present EORS members wish to discuss additional issues at this General Assembly. No points are raised.

12. Closing of the GA

The General Assembly is officially closed at 10:05 CEST.