

**Minutes of the ESH General Assembly
ESH 2026 Annual Meeting
Amber EXPO, Gdansk, Poland
Sunday, May 30, 2026 | 12:50 – 13:25 CEST**

MODERATORS

T. Weber, ESH President
C. Delles, ESH Secretary

AGENDA

1. Opening | President's Welcome & Report (T. Weber)
2. President's Report (T. Weber)
3. Brief Report on ESH Activities (C. Delles)
4. ESH Treasurer's Report | ESH Foundation Financial Report (J. Danser, M. Burnier)
5. Amendment to the ESH By-Laws (C. Delles)
6. Election of new Office Bearers & Farewell of outgoing Office Bearers
Changes among the Elected Council Members (T. Weber)
7. Approval of new members | June 2025 – May 2026 (C. Delles)
8. Upcoming ESH Annual Meetings (C. Delles)
9. Any other business (C. Delles)
10. Closing (T. Weber)

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING | PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

ESH President, T. Weber, opened the General Assembly on Sunday, May 30, 2026, at 12:50 CEST. He welcomed the audience and thanked them all for their attendance.

2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

T. Weber shared some important ESH matters with the members:

a) ESH Membership

Total number of ESH members = 2,748 (as of May 15, 2026)

New members (from June 2025 to May 20, 2026) = **115**

96 from European countries

19 from non-European countries (Africa, Asia, Middle East, Oceania, North and South America)

8 ESH 2025 Summer School participants

Paid and renewed 2026 membership fees (January – May 2026) = **315**

Standard fees paid (€ 100.00 per calendar year) = 280

Reduced fees paid (€ 50.00 per calendar year) = 35

b) ESH Working Groups

T. Weber reported on the currently existing 16 ESH Working Groups. Elections will be held during or after the 2026 Gdansk congress in some Working Groups to elect new Chairs, Vice-Chairs or Secretaries.

Some Working Groups are very active. A lot of papers were published during the last year. He thanked A. Persu for his excellent work on the coordination of all WG activities.

3. ESH ACTIVITIES

C. Delles reported on some selected ESH activities over the past year and for the upcoming year.

a) ESH Hypertension Summer Schools 2025 and 2026

The Hypertension Summer School is one of the ESH's most important initiatives. In 2025, the event took place from September 14-19 in Särö, Sweden. It was attended by 53 participants from 33 countries.

Special thanks to Mattias Brunström, the local organizer, and Jana Brguljan, the coordinator of the ESH Summer School, for this very successful Summer School edition in which a completely new program structure was established that focussed on working in smaller groups on specific topics.

The ESH Hypertension Summer School 2026 will take place from September 6-11, 2026, in Lunteren, in the south of Amsterdam, the Netherlands. 59 participants from 37 countries (European and non-European) are already registered.

Jan Danser, this year's local organizer, Jana Brguljan, and the Dutch organizing committee will build on last year's new model, which emphasizes small-group work, and expand this approach even further.

b) Important Webinars from December 2025 – May 2026

C. Delles briefly reported on some *major webinars that took place within the last months*:

ESH Webinars, July 2024 to May 2025

Webinar in cooperation with Gedeon Richter Hungary

- ESH Hybrid Webinar on “Integrative Management of Cardiovascular Disease: A Cardiometabolic Perspective”, December 4, 2025

Webinars in cooperation with Recor Medical

- Webinar 1 | December 2, 2025 - 2 time slots same content: “Translating Guidelines into Practice”
- Webinar 2 | March 3, 2026 - 2 time slots same content: “Hypertension Clinical Implications and Future Directions”

C. Delles pointed out that ESH also launched its own new webinar series, the ESH Masterclass Webinars.

- Episode 1: “Unmasking Secondary Hypertension: Diagnosis, Pitfalls, and Targeted Therapy”, May 11, 2026

The recording of the first episode is available on the ESH website and can thus be shared with other colleagues.

C. Delles thanked all organizers and companies for the excellence of these events.

c) ESH Excellence Centres and ESH Hypertension Specialists

The ESH Excellence Centres are central to the society's clinical activities. Some challenges remain, including revalidation and leadership changes. C. Delles encouraged the colleagues to keep M. Dumas informed of any updates.

Afterwards, some current figures were shown to the ESH members:

ESH Excellence Centres

Total number of Excellence Centres = 217 (May 2026)

Affiliated & Associated Excellence Centres

- Affiliated E.C.s (Europe) = 199
- European countries = 34
- Associated E.C.s Outside Europe = 18
- Countries Outside Europe = 11 in 5 continents (Asia, Middle East, Oceania, South & North America)

New Excellence Centres approved

- 2025 = 10
- 2026 = 7

Status of Excellence Centres

- Number of E.C. Leads = 231
- Heads in good standing = 154
- Heads unpaid membership fees = 77
- Heads not ESH members = 15

C. Delles reminded the audience that all leaders of Excellence Centres must be ESH members in good standing. If this is not the case, the Excellence Centre won't be displayed in the list of centres on the ESH website.

He thanked Michael Dumas for his hard work on the matter of Excellence Centres during the past year.

ESH Hypertension Specialists (EHS)

Total number of Hypertension Specialists (EHS) = 635 (May 2026)

Hypertension Specialists

- EHS in Europe = 604
- European countries = 34
- EHS Outside Europe = 31
- Countries Outside Europe = 15 in 6 continents (Asia, Middle East, Oceania, North Africa, North & South America)

New EHS approved

- 2025 = 19
- 2026 = 7

Status of EHS (May 2026)

- EHS in good standing = 136
- EHS unpaid membership fees = 499

It was emphasized that also all ESH Hypertension Specialists have to be ESH members in good standing to apply for EHS status.

4. TREASURER'S REPORTS

a) ESH Financial Report

J. Danser, ESH Treasurer, presented a comparison of the audited figures of the ESH for the fiscal year ending on December 31, 2025, and the corresponding numbers of the fiscal year 2024. All figures were presented in Swiss Francs.

Some figures were explicitly mentioned:

Income from the very successful ESH 2025 congress in Milan = 280,621.39
Expenses for new Social Media initiative with AIM Communications = -31,343.00
Gain on currency exchange due to an unfavourable exchange rate = -35,007.70
Increase of total liabilities increase = 263,271.85

The net result for 2025 is 159,668.34 (in 2024: 141,870.88).

Overall, the situation remains to be stable.

b) ESH Foundation Financial Report

M. Burnier, treasurer of the ESH Foundation, presented the audited balance sheets of the FESH on December 31, 2025, in comparison with the corresponding numbers of the fiscal year 2024. All figures were presented in Swiss Francs.

It was emphasized that the FESH's main mission is to support research and education. Supporting the ESH Summer School is one of its key activities.

In recent years, the Summer School has cost on average around EUR 140,000 to 150,000. The organizers of the 2024 Summer School in France did an outstanding job securing about EUR 94,000 (CHF 90,531) in sponsorship. The Swedish team organizing the 2025 school also raised around EUR 78,000 (CHF 75,838.10). M. Burnier thanked the organizers for their strong support.

The slides showed an ESH allocation of EUR 100,000 (CHF 93,050) for the Summer School.

The net result for 2025 is 27,457.94 (in 2024: 103,629.16).

M. Burnier also referred to two major research projects: one on adherence, supported by Servier, and one on CKD, supported by AstraZeneca. Both are still ongoing. The short-term income from these projects, gained in 2025, will be used to cover expenses from 2024 to 2026.

C. Delles asked the audience for comments or questions on both financial statements. No comments or questions were raised.

He asked the members present and entitled to vote if they had taken note of the audit reports and if the annual financial statements presented were unanimously approved. There were no objections. Thus, the Scientific Council is declared discharged.

5. AMENDMENTS TO THE ESH BY-LAWS

C. Delles reported that the proposed amendments underwent thorough discussions across multiple meetings of the ESH Scientific Council.

In early February, the amended By-Laws were circulated to all ESH members, providing a formal review and comment period ahead of the General Assembly vote. February 27, 2026, served as the deadline for the submission of comments.

A few minor comments were received and have been incorporated to the greatest extent possible.

Subsequently, the latest version of the amended By-Laws was distributed to all ESH members alongside the invitation to the General Assembly and its accompanying agenda.

Since it would have taken too long to review the entire document again, a summary of the most important changes was presented.

These are as follows:

The introduction of a **new type of membership – the Professional Members.**

This type of membership will comprise several important rights, including among others a reduced fee for the Annual Meeting and the online version of the Journal of Hypertension, and the right to vote for candidates for the Scientific Council.

The introduction of a **new type of membership through affiliated national hypertension societies**, in a way that all members of affiliated national societies shall become ESH members.

The **upgrade of the Representative of Affiliated National Hypertension Societies** within the Scientific Council to a member with full voting rights.

A **clearly defined voting process for Scientific Council members.**

The goal here is to introduce another element of democracy in our society.

A clearer definition of **duration of service** on the Scientific Council.

A **defined pathway to ESH Presidency.**

This will facilitate the achievement of long-term goals and long-term stability in the transition phase between old and new president.

The **abolition of the role of the Immediate Past President** in the Council.
This will eliminate excessive long-term participation in the Council.

C. Delles asked the audience for their approval of the new ESH By-Laws. There was no objection.

6. ELECTION OF NEW OFFICE BEARERS & FAREWELL OF OUTGOING OFFICE BEARERS | CHANGES AMONG THE ELECTED COUNCIL MEMBERS

T. Weber informed the members that the term of the current Immediate Past President, Guido Grassi, has ended. He thanked him for the outstanding job he did for the society as the President from 2022-2024 and Immediate Past President from 2024-2026.

With the implementation of the new ESH By-Laws, the Executive Officer positions on the Scientific Council will also be abolished. The society therefore bids farewell to:

- Giuseppe Mancina, one of the society's greatest assets since the founding of ESH
- Konstantinos Tsioufis, who received ESH Honorary Membership in Gdansk for his outstanding contributions to the society
- Reinhold Kreutz, who, together with Giuseppe Mancina, led the 2023 ESH Guidelines and the 2024 ESH Clinical Practice Guidelines and made a major contribution to the ESH 2026 Gdansk Meeting
- Jana Brguljan, who successfully coordinated the ESH Summer School over the past six years
- Rosa de Pinho, who established the General Practitioners Network
- Mattias Brunström, Executive Officer for Evidence Synthesis in Clinical Research

T. Weber invited the audience to give a brief round of applause for the outgoing members of the Scientific Council.

T. Weber informed the members that also his term as President of the society will end with the congress in Gdansk. Therefore, a new President needs to be elected.

The Scientific Council proposed Andrzej Januszewicz as its candidate for this position. He was the society's Vice-President at the time of the General Assembly.

T. Weber asked the audience for the approval of the proposed candidate. No objections were raised. The proposal was unanimously accepted.

Since with the election of A. Januszewicz as the new President, the position of Vice-President became vacant. The Scientific Council proposed Christian Delles as its candidate for this position. He was the society's Secretary at the time of the General Assembly.

T. Weber asked the audience for the approval of the proposed candidate. No objections were raised. The proposal was unanimously accepted.

Since with the election of C. Delles as the new Vice-President, the position of Secretary became vacant. The Scientific Council proposed Alexandre Persu as its candidate for this position. He was the society's Coordinator for all Working Group activities at the time of the General Assembly.

T. Weber asked the audience for the approval of the proposed candidate. No objections were raised. The proposal was unanimously accepted.

With the adoption of the amended ESH By-Laws, a new Office Bearer position will be created within the Scientific Council.

The Representative of the ESH Affiliated National Hypertension Societies will become one of the Office Bearers.

Under the By-Laws, the affiliated National Societies will elect their Representative independently. At the National Societies meeting on Friday, May 29, in Gdansk, three possible election options were discussed. An online vote will take place after the congress.

In the meantime, the Scientific Council proposed that Zoltan Jarai remain in his role as Representative of the ESH Affiliated National Hypertension Societies until the election process is defined.

T. Weber asked the audience for the approval of the proposed candidate. No objections were raised. The proposal was unanimously accepted.

With A. Persu's election as Secretary, one of the five Regular Member positions on the Scientific Council became vacant. The Scientific Council proposed Agostino Viridis for this position. He is currently the President of the Italian Society of Hypertension.

T. Weber asked the audience to approve the proposed candidate. No objections were raised, and the proposal was unanimously accepted.

With A. Persu's election as Secretary, his role as Coordinator of Working Group Activities had to be reassigned to another Regular Member. The Scientific Council proposed Lene Halvorsen for this position. No objections were raised.

Finally, an overview of the ESH Council members eligible to vote was shown to the audience.

7. APPROVAL OF NEW ESH MEMBERS (June 2024 – May 2025)

C. Delles presented a list of all new applications for membership of the ESH received between June 2025 and May 2026. The total number of new membership applications is 115.

According to the current ESH By Laws, all new members must be officially approved by the ESH General Assembly. C. Delles asked those present for their approval. All new members were confirmed unanimously.

8. UPCOMING ESH ANNUAL MEETINGS

C. Delles presented an overview of the venues for the upcoming ESH Annual Meetings:

ESH 2027: Basel

ISH-ESH 2028: Glasgow

ESH 2029: Lisbon or Rotterdam

ESH 2030: Lisbon or Rotterdam

He explained that the host city for ESH 2029 and 2030 has not yet been decided. The final decision will depend on venue availability and a careful review of potential scheduling conflicts with other major society meetings, such as ERA. But in any case, it will be either Lisbon or Rotterdam.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

C. Delles asked the audience for any outstanding questions. No questions were raised.

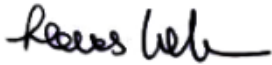
10. CLOSING

T. Weber thanked the members, the ESH Council, the Working Groups, and the entire team for their support during the last two years of his Presidency. It has been a very good relationship and fruitful cooperation.


He then closed the meeting.

Wels, Austria, June 10, 2026

Manchester, U.K., June 11, 2026



Thomas Weber
ESH President



Christian Delles
ESH Secretary