

## Minutes of the ESOT General Assembly

Athens, 17 September 2023

### Welcome by the President

The ESOT President, Luciano Potena, welcomed participants and opened the meeting.

### Ratification of the minutes of the previous General Assembly

The minutes of the previous General Assembly, held in Milan on the 30th of August 2021, were approved without any suggestions for changes.

### Ratification of elections

The ESOT Secretary, Umberto Cillo, announced the results of the recent election of the President-elect. As a result of the nomination process, three nominations were received: Chloë Ballesté Delpierre, Umberto Cillo, and Olivier Thauinat. However, Umberto and Chloë declined their nominations in order to complete their terms as Secretary and Councillor, respectively. Olivier Thauinat was elected unopposed as the new President-elect.

The ESOT Secretary also announced the results of the Treasurer election. Three nominations were received: Ekaterine Berishvili, Frank Dor, and Anna Forsberg. Frank Dor was elected as the new Treasurer.

He also announced that five new Councillors – Amedeo Carraro, Anna Forsberg, Speranta Iacob, Ina Jochmans (re-election, second term) and Annemarie Weissenbacher – were elected. The Assembly ratified the elections.

As such, the new ESOT Executive of the ESOT Society (Governing Board) will be composed of:

Gabriel Oniscu, Sweden	ESOT President
Olivier Thauinat, France	ESOT President-Elect
Luciano Potena, Italy	ESOT Past-President
Umberto Cillo, Italy	ESOT Secretary
Frank Dor, UK	ESOT Treasurer

### Approval of new bylaws

The ESOT president, Luciano Potena, presented an update on the ESOT bylaws, which were amended to ensure full compliance with the requirements for non-profit (ANBI) status according to current Dutch law. In addition, the structure of the organisation will be simplified by winding up the Foundation and transferring all activities to the Society.

The new ESOT bylaws were unanimously approved by the Assembly.

Executive Committee	Councillors	Sections	Committees	ESOT Headquarters
President Gabriel Oniscu President Elect Olivier Thauinat Past-President Luciano Potena Secretary Umberto Cillo Treasurer Frank Dor CEO Devi Mey	Chloe Ballesté Delpierre Amedeo Carraro Ekaterine Berishvili Speranta Iacob Annemarie Weissenbacher Ina Jochmans Geir Mjoen Anna Forsberg	ECTORS Chair – Sandra Lindstedt ECTTA Chair – Cristiano Amarelli EKITA Chair – Emin Baris Akin ELITA Chair – Giacomo Germani EPITA Chair – Julie Kerr-Conte EDTCC Chair – Nuria Masnou ELPAT Chair – Hannah Maple	Basic Science Committee Chair – Maria Kaisar Education Committee Chair - Luca Toti VCA Committee Chair - ETAHP Committee Chair – Marleen van Buren YPT Committee Chair – Dilan Dabare	Westerdoksdiik 423, 1013 BX Amsterdam, The Netherlands E: <a href="mailto:askme@esot.org">askme@esot.org</a> W: <a href="https://esot.org/">https://esot.org/</a> T: +393482786092
			Transplant International Editor-in-Chief - Thierry Berney	

## President's report

Luciano Potena presented a report of his activities as President of ESOT over the past two years. He highlighted the work done by focusing on press and media work, accountability, the work environment, positioning ESOT as a key institutional stakeholder, developing a comprehensive and diversified business model, and developing a public health approach. He then highlighted the publication of the ESOT manifesto, which represents ESOT's formal commitment to tackle inequality in organ transplantation in Europe.

LP conveyed an important message about the importance of all Sections and Committees within ESOT. He explained that there is no concept of a centralised umbrella organisation but rather the idea of a community collaborating and growing together. He thanked the Education Committee, the ESOT Executive Committee, and the ESOT Team members for the work done.

## Secretary's report

The ESOT Secretary, Umberto Cillo, presented an update about the ESOT Grants programme 2024, including the novelties of the 2024 edition and the recipients of the 2022 and 2023 ESOT Fellowship.

Umberto Cillo then provided an overview of the newly appointed Board members of the ESOT Sections and Committees.

Finally, he illustrated the ESOT Guidelines project. He presented the vision informing the project, the task force members, the ESOT manual for clinical practice guidelines, and an overview of the publications following the work done at TLJ 3.0. He also announced a second cycle of ESOT guidelines and invited all transplant professionals to contribute by proposing topics of Consensus guidelines. He informed ESOT members that a call for the proposal of new topics has been launched and will close on September 30, 2023.

## Treasurer's report

The outgoing ESOT Treasurer, Olivier Thauinat, presented an update on the financial status of the Society. 2022 ended with a loss of 277,495 EUR, which was much better than expected. The improved financial situation is due to the implementation of a new financial strategy, a focus on risk mitigation, improved project management, constant monitoring of the financial status, the revision of policies, increased fundraising efforts, and the diversification of revenue sources, reducing ESOT's dependency on the Congress as the main source of funding. The current estimate for 2023 is positive + 457,802 EUR.

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## ESOT Congress

The President-elect, Gabriel Oniscu, presented an update on the 2023 ESOT Congress, providing key data and information about the Congress faculty, plenary sessions, abstract submissions, awards, sponsorship, registrations, communication, and the press coverage related to the Congress.

Olivier Thauinat then presented an overview of the 2025 ESOT Congress and informed ESOT members that the Congress will take place from June 29 to July 2, 2025, in London. This change of dates is due to the fact that AST and TTS are organising a joint congress in August 2025. In addition, he presented the selected venue (London ExCel), the Scientific and local Programme Committee, the Congress's thematic threads, and the key dates for the 2025 ESOT Congress. Finally, he illustrated some of the key areas of focus that will characterise the next edition of the Congress: a legacy project, a commitment to sustainability, efforts to foster collaboration networks for scientific exchange, support for young fellows and professionals with limited funding, collaboration with national transplant societies, and a strong collaboration with the British Transplant Society.

## Transplant International

Thierry Berney, the Editor-in-Chief of Transplant International, presented an update on the journal and its activities, including the Editorial Board and fellow members, the ongoing special issues, emphasising TLJ, "ESOT guidelines from the Transplantation Learning Journey 3.0" and "Top papers from the ESOT Congress 2023", and presented the Frontiers for young minds project. TB also provided an overview of the publishing activity, covering the number of papers published by month, year and by type of issue as well as the rejection rate on regular and special issues. Additionally, the financial results – income for ESOT, metrics and vision were presented. He emphasised that issues are still present with the Frontiers platform, which is not user-friendly and does not facilitate the editorial workflow. The editors' feedback on the platform, collected through a survey, was shared with Frontiers, and discussed in a dedicated meeting. Frontiers has acknowledged the problem and has been making improvements. An entirely new platform will be set up in 2024.

## Any other business

No further business.

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## Closing remarks by the new ESOT President

Gabriel Oniscu, new ESOT President, thanked Luciano Potena, Vassilios Papalois and the outgoing Council members and Chairs of Sections and Committees for their important contribution and service to the Society and promised to work closely with the ESOT Executive, Council, and all members of ESOT to promote the causes of the Society. GO emphasised that the Society has had much to be proud of over the last few years. However, in order to face the upcoming challenges, ESOT needs to become an organisation embracing and promoting equality, fairness, and inclusion. GO thanked participants and brought the General Assembly to a close.

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