

Network of National EDTCO Key Members

The [European Donation and Transplant Coordination Organisation \(EDTCO\)](#), Section of ESOT, would like to propose the relaunch of the network of National EDTCO Key Members, namely Key Donation Person (KDPs), appointed as national focal points within the EDTCO framework.

The aim of this initiative is to strengthen collaboration between EDTCO and KDPs across Europe by establishing a structured network of national focal points who will facilitate communication, support professional exchange, and ensure that first-hand perspectives and expertise from daily organ donation practice are reflected in EDTCO activities and strategic initiatives. The network will also provide EDTCO with information on practical barriers, workplace and workforce challenges, organisational gaps, good practices, and opportunities for improvement in organ donation, while strengthening the professional identity, visibility, and leadership of KDPs. Consistent with Council of Europe terminology, the term Key Donation Professional is used to encompass the diversity of professional titles and organisational models across countries and refers to healthcare professionals with direct operational involvement and responsibility in the organ donation process, whether working at hospital, regional, or national level.

Eligibility Criteria

To ensure flexibility while maintaining high standards, the eligibility criteria are divided into essential and preferred requirements.

Essential criteria. Candidates should:

- Be directly and regularly involved in the operational organ donation process at hospital, regional, or national level, irrespective of the employing organisation.
- Have direct professional responsibility for one or more stages of the deceased organ donation pathway.
Professionals involved in both deceased and living donation are eligible, provided they have an active professional role in the deceased organ donation pathway.
- Be able to communicate effectively in English to participate in international meetings and discussions.
- Be a qualified healthcare professional with appropriate training and experience in organ donation, in accordance with the applicable national framework.
- Be a member of European Society for Organ Transplantation (ESOT) and affiliated with EDTCO or commit to becoming so upon appointment.

Preferred criteria. Preference may be given to candidates who:

- Demonstrate previous involvement in national, regional, or international educational, scientific, or professional activities related to organ donation.
- Have experience in collaboration, networking, or professional engagement with KDPs at national level.
- Hold UEMS-CETC certification and/or demonstrate active membership in a relevant national transplant or donation society or professional network.

ESOT Headquarters

Eduard van Beinumstraat 28, 12th Floor, 1077 CZ Amsterdam, The Netherlands - E: askme@esot.org - W: <https://esot.org/> - T: +393482786092

European Society for Organ Transplantation (ESOT) ESOT is registered as a charity (Algemeen Nut Beogende Instelling: ANBI) in the Netherlands. VAT Registration number NL820509498B01 - Chamber of Commerce Amsterdam Registration number 34329686. Steunstichting ESOT is the support foundation of the European Society for Organ Transplantation (ESOT) VAT Registration number NL822162313B01 - Chamber of Commerce Amsterdam Registration number 34385303 - Legal Seat: Eduard van Beinumstraat 28, 12th Floor, 1077 CZ Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

Expected Commitment

National EDTCO Key Members would be expected to:

- Actively participate in EDTCO activities and communications.
- Participate, whenever possible, in online meetings, consultations, and relevant working groups.
- Respond to EDTCO requests and consultations in a timely manner.
- Facilitate two-way communication between EDTCO and KDPs in their country, maintain active contact with the national KDP community, and communicate practical challenges, workforce needs, organisational barriers, and relevant good practices identified in daily donation work.
- Promote international collaboration and contribute to strengthening the European network of KDPs.

Through these activities, National EDTCO Key Members would play a key role in enhancing communication, promoting collaboration across countries, and supporting the continuous development of organ donation coordination practices throughout Europe.

Role and Expected Contributions

The National EDTCO Key Member would serve as the primary national focal point between the KDP community in their country and EDTCO. The role is intended to facilitate communication, promote EDTCO initiatives at national level, and ensure that practical experiences, priorities, and perspectives from organ donation practice are effectively conveyed within the organisation. The role is scientific and professional and does not constitute formal administrative, regulatory, or institutional representation of a national authority or organisation.

The responsibilities of the National EDTCO Key Member would include:

Communication and Information Exchange:

- Disseminating information on EDTCO activities and initiatives.
- Communicating national feedback, practical challenges, and professional needs to the EDTCO Board.
- Maintaining regular communication with the EDTCO Board and relevant working groups.

Engagement with the National KDP Community

- Conveying the perspectives, priorities, and practical needs of KDPs in the country.
- Sharing national experiences, organisational challenges, and good practices.
- Promoting participation in EDTCO and ESOT activities.

Support for EDTCO Projects and Initiatives

- Contributing to EDTCO projects, surveys, consultations, and working groups.
- Supporting educational resources, recommendations, and publications.
- Facilitating national involvement in collaborative initiatives.

Professional Development and Networking

- Promoting educational opportunities and professional networking.
- Encouraging the exchange of knowledge and experience.
- Identifying national educational, workforce, and professional development needs.

Development of Organ Donation Coordination Practices

- Supporting the development of shared principles and professional standards in organ donation across Europe, while respecting different national organisational models.
- Promoting the dissemination and implementation of relevant good practices.
- Strengthening the recognition and visibility of KDPs.

Appointment and Selection Process

Each country may have one National EDTCO Key Member at any given time.

Nominations should be submitted to the ESOT Office and include:

- A brief curriculum vitae (maximum 2 pages);
- A short statement of interest outlining the candidate's motivation and expected contribution to EDTCO;
- Contact details of the nominee.

Nominations should be sent to Silvia Valls (silvia.valls@esot.org) no later than **Sunday, 15 November 2026**.

To ensure transparency and equal opportunity, a public call for nominations would be disseminated through the ESOT Council, EDTCO Board Members, and relevant national KDP and organ donation networks.

Following the nomination period, the EDTCO Board would review all eligible applications against the agreed selection criteria, including direct operational experience in organ donation, engagement with the national KDP community, and capacity to contribute actively to EDTCO. Where more than one eligible candidate is nominated from the same country, the EDTCO Board would make the final appointment by majority vote.

National EDTCO Key Members would be appointed for an initial two-year term. Following a review of their engagement and contribution to EDTCO activities, they may be reappointed for one additional two-year term. Reappointment would be subject to approval by the EDTCO Board.

Should a National EDTCO Key Member resign, become inactive, no longer fulfil the eligibility criteria, or cease to be directly involved in organ donation, a replacement would be appointed following the same transparent nomination and selection process. National EDTCO Key Members will be invited to provide a brief annual update on their activities, contributions, and key national challenges identified in organ donation practice. This information will support communication between EDTCO and its national focal points and will be considered during any reappointment process.

ESOT Headquarters

Eduard van Beinumstraat 28, 12th Floor, 1077 CZ Amsterdam, The Netherlands - E: askme@esot.org - W: <https://esot.org/> - T: +393482786092

European Society for Organ Transplantation (ESOT) ESOT is registered as a charity (Algemeen Nut Beogende Instelling: ANBI) in the Netherlands. VAT Registration number NL820509498B01 - Chamber of Commerce Amsterdam Registration number 34329686. Steunstichting ESOT is the support foundation of the European Society for Organ Transplantation (ESOT) VAT Registration number NL822162313B01 - Chamber of Commerce Amsterdam Registration number 34385303 - Legal Seat: Eduard van Beinumstraat 28, 12th Floor, 1077 CZ Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

Benefits for National EDTCO Key Members

Appointment as a National EDTCO Key Member would provide opportunities for professional development, international collaboration, and recognition of the individual's contribution to organ donation coordination. It would also provide the opportunity to contribute to the future development of organ donation practices in Europe through active participation in EDTCO initiatives.

National EDTCO Key Members may benefit from:

- Formal recognition of their appointment by EDTCO and ESOT.
- Opportunities to contribute to EDTCO working groups, educational initiatives, projects, consensus documents, recommendations, and scientific publications.
- Increased visibility within the European transplant community through active involvement in EDTCO activities.
- Opportunities to expand their professional network by collaborating with KDPs and experts from across Europe.
- Access to leadership and professional development opportunities within EDTCO.
- A certificate of appointment and recognition upon completion of their mandate.
- Complimentary ESOT membership, subject to confirmation and applicable ESOT policies.
- Complimentary or reduced registration fees for ESOT Congresses and selected ESOT or EDTCO educational events, subject to confirmation and applicable ESOT policies.
- Opportunities to represent EDTCO at national and international meetings, educational events, or professional forums, where appropriate.
- Opportunities to contribute to the development of European organ donation coordination standards and good practices, allowing members to actively shape the future of the field.

We believe that establishing a network of National EDTCO Key Members will significantly strengthen collaboration between EDTCO and KDPs throughout Europe, improve communication between national and European communities, provide first-hand insight into practical challenges in organ donation, increase the visibility and recognition of KDPs, and support the ongoing development of organ donation coordination practices across ESOT member countries.