

ESGE VISION

Newsletter of the European Society for Gynaecological Endoscopy

ESGE
35th
ANNUAL
CONGRESS

Create history by shaping the future

4th - 7th October 2026

Krakow, Poland

Issue 15 | July 2026

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Message From the Editor



Funlayo (Jimi) Odejinmi
Editor, ESGE Vision

Dear Fellow ESGE Members,

It is with great pleasure that I bring you another edition of ESGE - VISION, your ESGE newsletter.

Sadly, we begin this issue with the news of the passing of Stephan Gordts, who died on 22 May. Stephan was a giant within our community, and this edition contains a tribute to his outstanding contribution to the Society. Throughout his distinguished career, he exemplified the combination of medical excellence, innovation, and humanity that continues to inspire us all. His legacy will undoubtedly endure through the many colleagues, trainees, and patients whose lives he touched.

As always, our President, Ertan Saridogan, shares his reflections and updates as we look ahead to gathering once again for the 35th ESGE Annual Congress in Kraków. Our recent congress in Istanbul was, by all accounts, an outstanding success, continuing a tradition of excellence that has characterised ESGE meetings over many years. I am confident that Kraków will build on this success, offering an exceptional scientific programme, vibrant discussion, and valuable opportunities for collaboration and networking.

The Society's Special Interest Groups continue to go from strength to strength. Robotics, endometriosis, hysteroscopy, neurolpelvology, and many other disciplines remain at the forefront of innovation, education, and research, reflecting the breadth and dynamism of our speciality.

Our official journal, Facts, Views & Vision in ObGyn (FVVO), continues its impressive trajectory under the leadership of Professor Justin Clark. His ambition is to further establish the journal as the premier destination for high-quality publications in minimal access surgery and related fields. He warmly encourages members to submit their work, while reminding us that maintaining excellence requires the highest standards of scientific rigour and originality.

This issue also highlights the activities of our affiliated societies and reports from their respective annual scientific meetings. These contributions underscore the importance of community, collaboration, and shared learning across Europe and beyond.

Training the next generation remains central to the ESGE mission. The continued success of initiatives such as the Young ESGE Platform (YEP) Exchange Programme demonstrates our commitment to nurturing future leaders and ensuring that excellence in education remains at the heart of our Society.

I hope you enjoy this edition of VISION. Thank you to all contributors, reviewers, editors, and volunteers whose dedication makes this publication possible. I look forward to seeing many of you in Kraków as we continue to advance our speciality together.

With best wishes,

Funlayo (Jimi) Odejinmi

Editor, *VISION*

European Society for Gynaecological Endoscopy (ESGE)

ESGE President's Message



Ertan Saridoğan

President, European Society for
Gynaecological Endoscopy

Dear Colleagues and Friends

This is my last message in the ESGEVISION as the President of the European Society for Gynaecological Endoscopy. I am writing this text at the height of activities which will see us go to the ESGE 35th Annual Congress on 4-7 October 2026, in Krakow, Poland. The Congress Committee and the Scientific Chairs, Luis Alonso and Pierre Collinet, have prepared a fantastic programme which will offer very good value for everyone. We will have 20 precongress courses on Sunday 4 October. There will be 30 plenary sessions contributed by more than 150 speakers, 2 keynote lectures and 2 live surgery sessions in the main programme. We are planning to give 300-400 abstract submitters the opportunity to present their research, clinical and scientific work, and operative videos in the free communications sessions. We received 980 abstracts submitted to be considered for presentation at the Congress; the Abstract Management Committee under the leadership of Professor Michelle Nisolle, together with 150 reviewers, will have the difficult task to best quality submissions for presentation.

The ESGE community was saddened to hear of the death of our colleague Dr Stephan Gordts in May this year. Stephan was well-known for his expertise in reproductive surgery, and was considered by many as the father of transvaginal hydrolaparoscopy. His close friend and colleague, Dr Rudi Campo, pays tribute to Stephan in this issue of ESGEVISION in his touching obituary.

The Congress preparations are taking place along with a number of activities from the Special Interest Groups (SIGs) and the ESGE Academy. Over the last 18-20 months, we have restructured the SIGs and revitalised their activities. I am pleased to see that the dynamic new membership with contributions from our Advisory Board members of the SIGs is making an impact, and we are seeing a high level of activity in all SIGs. Subgroups of SIGs are working behind the scenes to prepare guidelines and good practice recommendations to be published in our journal Facts, Views and Vision.

The SIGs Urogynaecology, Oncology and Neuropelveology have developed the programme for Advanced Level GESEA curricula with supervision and support from the Director of ESGE Academy, Professor Benoit Rabischong, and these are now being rolled out. The Endometriosis SIG is now preparing the curriculum for the Advanced Level GESEA programme at present, and we are hoping to announce it in Krakow. Some SIGs are preparing Hands-on Courses and Masterclasses at different locations throughout Europe. The SIG Education and Training, under the leadership of Dr Lina Antoun, has organised a Hands-on Cadaveric Dissection Course on Retroperitoneal Anatomy and Hysteroscopy on 14-15 July in Leeds, United Kingdom. Further Courses are being planned by the SIGs Hysteroscopy, Imaging, vNOTES, Endometriosis, Oncology and Education and Training later this year and early 2027.

The two newly formed SIGs, SIG vNOTES and Artificial Intelligence in Gynaecology, are now up and running. They will show their presence in Krakow with dedicated sessions and a vNOTES precongress course.

The SIGs have also prepared and conducted regular ESGE Webinars under the coordination of Professor Vasilis Tanos, President-Elect of ESGE, on a monthly basis. It is gratifying to see the growing interest in ESGE Webinars; they are now being attended by a record number of participants. They usually take place on the last Thursday of each month at 7 pm CET and are advertised on the ESGE website and social media outlets regularly.

We are seeing an increasing popularity of the GESEA programme worldwide. Three centres in Türkiye and Bulgaria have recently met the criteria to become GESEA Diploma Centres, and a number of other centres around the world are now working towards being accredited as GESEA Training Centres. ESGE GESEA Liaison Officer Dr Istvan Argay is travelling around the globe to support them and is setting up new ones. As usual, we will run a number of GESEA Certification Sessions in Krakow during the ESGE Annual Congress.

The ESGE Young Endoscopist Programme (YEP) has also been very busy with its enthusiastic and dynamic members under the leadership of Professor Helder Ferreira and Dr Federica Campolo. They have started separate YEP webinars, which turned out to be very popular. The YEP Group has also organised 23 sites in different cities in Poland for the YEP Exchange Programme during the week before the Congress, offering the chance to approximately 75 young gynaecologists to visit and get a flavour of the clinical practice in Poland, as well as the history, culture and the daily life.

We have seen a number of ESGE Regional Meetings taking place this year; meetings in Cairo with the Egyptian Society of Endometriosis, in Leuven with the IDEA and MUSA Groups and in Valencia with SEGO have been the highlights. In addition, I and/or other representatives of ESGE participated in several national and international meetings, including EndoDubai, Turkish Platform of MIGS, AGES, Turkish Society of Gynaecological Endoscopy, Moroccan Society of MIGS and EndoForum Poland. Recently, Professor Grigoris Grimbizis and I, Chair of the ESGE Board of Directors, attended the Chinese Obstetrics and Gynaecology Network Meeting in Changsha, China to represent the ESGE. These meetings enable us to interact with gynaecologists around Europe and beyond more closely and strengthen our links with them, whilst contributing to their professional development.

I am proud to see the achievements of our Society as a global leader in the field of gynaecological endoscopy and have no doubt that the ESGE will continue to advance the care of women we look after in the coming years.

I wish you all an enjoyable summer and hope that you all get some rest and recharge.

And I look forward to seeing you all at our Annual Congress in October in Krakow.

With my very best wishes

Ertan Sandoğan

President, European Society for Gynaecological Endoscopy



ESGE 35th ANNUAL CONGRESS

4th – 7th October 2026



Join us at the 35th ESGE Annual Congress in Kraków, Poland!



Join the ESGE community from 4th – 7th October and register for the early bird fee by 15th July

We are delighted to invite you to the 35th ESGE Annual Congress, taking place from 4th to 7th October 2026 at the ICE Kraków Congress Centre.

This year's Congress will again bring the international ESGE community together for four days of scientific exchange, education, innovation and professional networking. Registration is open.

Why you should not miss ESGE 2026

1. International participation

The ESGE Annual Congress brings together clinicians, researchers, trainees, nurses, educators, innovators and industry partners from around the world. Kraków will provide an important opportunity to exchange experience, discuss current practice and strengthen collaboration across countries and generations.

2. A diverse international exhibition

Companies from Europe and beyond will present current technologies, instruments and services in gynaecological endoscopy. The exhibition offers a direct opportunity to speak with industry representatives, compare solutions and stay informed about developments relevant to clinical practice.

The current list of [sponsors and exhibitors](#) is available on the Congress website.

3. Almost 1,000 abstracts submitted

We are delighted to report that almost 1,000 abstracts have been submitted for oral, poster and video presentations. This is an outstanding result and a strong sign of the scientific engagement and vitality of our community. The selected contributions will be an important part of the Congress and will bring new research, clinical experience and ideas into the discussion.

4. A modern and accessible venue

The ICE Kraków Congress Centre is a venue with modern facilities and a compact layout. Kraków is well connected by air and rail, making the Congress straightforward to reach from many European cities and international hubs.

5. Kraków – a new Congress destination for many

For many participants, Kraków may be a less familiar destination. With its strong academic tradition, established medical community and modern congress infrastructure, the city provides a fitting setting for an international scientific meeting. The focus remains clear: meaningful exchange, high-quality education and progress in gynaecological endoscopy.

Don't miss the Social Events

Welcome Reception

Join us on Sunday evening, 4th October, in the industry exhibition for the official opening and the first opportunity to meet colleagues and industry partners in an informal setting.

ESGE Club Night

On Tuesday evening, 6th October, the ESGE Club Night will offer another opportunity to meet, connect and continue conversations beyond the scientific programme.

Separate registration is required.

<https://www.esgecongress.eu/social-programme>

Stay informed

For updates on the [scientific programme](#), [registration](#), social events, [accommodation](#) and [venue information](#), visit the [Congress website](#). We will continue to share further information in the months leading up to the Congress.

Join us and be part of ESGE 2026 in Kraków!



YEP EXCHANGE 2026

30 SEPT - 2 OCT 2026

POLAND 

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Kraków, Poland - ESGE 35th Annual Congress - 4-7 October 2026



YEP Exchange

YEP Exchange Programme 2026 in Poland – Applications Now Open

On behalf of the ESGE Young Endoscopists Platform, I am delighted to announce that applications are now open for the next YEP Exchange Programme, which will take place in Poland from 30 September to 2 October 2026, immediately before the 35th ESGE Annual Congress in Kraków.

This programme represents a unique opportunity for young gynaecologists and endoscopic surgeons to gain international clinical exposure, visit centres of excellence, and connect with peers and mentors from across Europe.

For the 2026 edition, we are especially pleased that more than 20 hospitals and host centres in Poland will open their doors to welcome young colleagues. These centres offer expertise in different areas of advanced gynaecological endoscopy, including robotic surgery, laparoscopy and hysteroscopy, allowing participants to observe diverse clinical practices and learn from highly experienced teams.

The YEP Exchange is much more than an observership. It is an opportunity to experience different surgical environments, share knowledge, build friendships, and become part of a dynamic European network of young gynaecological endoscopic surgeons.

The social and networking dimension will also be an important part of the 2026 edition. On Saturday, we are planning a special moment in Kraków, bringing all exchange participants together before the ESGE Congress – an ideal opportunity to connect, share experiences and strengthen the YEP community spirit.

We warmly encourage eligible young ESGE members registered for the ESGE Congress to apply through the official YEP Exchange application page:

<https://www.esgecongress.eu/yep>

Hélder Ferreira

Chair, ESGE Young Endoscopists Platform



Prof. Helder Ferreira
Chair YEP Committee

News From ESGE Special Interest Groups



Harald Krentel
Chair of the ESGE Special Interest
Group Endometriosis

Endometriosis

Dear friends and colleagues,

It is a great honour to introduce the new term of the ESGE Special Interest Group on Endometriosis for the period 2026–2028. Building on the outstanding work of our Past Chair, Professor Jörg Keckstein, our group enters this term with a clear mission: to translate scientific progress in endometriosis into tangible improvements in everyday clinical practice — through high-quality research, education, and international collaboration. On behalf of the Steering Committee, I would like to thank Prof. Keckstein for his vision, his tireless commitment, and the very strong foundation on which we are now building.

A new term, a strong team

Our SIG brings together endometriosis experts from across Europe, combining clinical, surgical, and academic perspectives. The current structure reflects this diversity and ensures continuity across the term.

Chair: Harald Krentel, Germany; **Past Chair:** Jörg Keckstein, Austria; **Chair Elect:** Shaheen Khazali, UK

Steering Committee: Manuel Ianieri (Italy), Diego Raimondo (Italy), Emanuela Spagnolo (Spain), Laurin Burla (Switzerland), Ertan Saridogan (UK), Angelos Daniilidis (Greece), Helder Ferreira (Portugal), Michelle Nisolle (Belgium), Steffi Burghaus (Germany).

YEP SIG Representatives: Fitnat Topbas (Türkiye) and Darya Pashkunova (Austria).

We are particularly delighted to welcome our YEP representatives, whose involvement reflects our strong commitment to engaging the next generation of endometriosis surgeons and researchers from the very beginning of this new term.

“Bridging the Gap” — from classification to clinical reality

Substantial progress has been made in endometriosis diagnosis and classification over the past decade. However, the real impact of these developments depends on how effectively they are implemented in everyday clinical practice. This is the central question behind our recent project, ***Bridging the Gap.***

Designed and coordinated by Jörg Keckstein, Laurin Burla, Ertan Saridogan and Harald Krentel, the project is an international, multi-arm questionnaire study on current practice in endometriosis imaging and classification. It targets the full spectrum of professionals involved in endometriosis care — from trainees and office-based gynaecologists to hospital-based gynaecologists and fertility specialists. The study was launched in February 2026 and is now actively recruiting participants.

Our aim is straightforward but ambitious: to evaluate how endometriosis is currently diagnosed and classified across different settings and countries, to identify the real-world barriers to implementation, and to use this evidence to improve care and develop targeted training programs. We strongly encourage all colleagues involved in endometriosis care to participate — your perspective is essential.

To take part, please email bridgingthegap.esge@outlook.com with your name, workplace, and professional category. You will then receive a personal access code and your individual survey link. Completion takes approximately 5–10 minutes; responses are pseudonymised and will be scientifically analysed and published.

EuroEndoRAS — defining best practice in robotic endometriosis surgery

Robotic-assisted surgery (RAS) is rapidly establishing itself as an important option in the surgical management of deep endometriosis. With the second major project of this term, EuroEndoRAS, we want to analyse surgical techniques in robotic-assisted endometriosis surgery. EuroEndoRAS will bring together experienced users of RAS in endometriosis to develop a structured expert opinion and good-practice recommendation covering technical considerations and procedural standards. The format will follow an established Delphi-type expert consensus process.

We are currently setting up the working group and identifying contributing experts. Colleagues with substantial experience in robotic surgery for endometriosis who would like to contribute to this initiative are warmly invited to get in touch with the SIG.

Inter-SIG collaboration: Endometriosis meets Robotics and Imaging

Complex problems rarely respect the borders of a single subspecialty — and modern endometriosis surgery is a particularly good example.

For this reason, the Endometriosis SIG and the Robotic Surgery SIG will work in close collaboration over the coming term, with EuroEndoRAS as a natural starting point.

Joint sessions, shared educational initiatives and combined working groups are planned to ensure that future recommendations reflect the perspectives of both communities and bring real benefit to our members and, ultimately, to the patients we serve. This inter-SIG modality applies as well to possible collaborations between SIGs Endometriosis and Imaging.

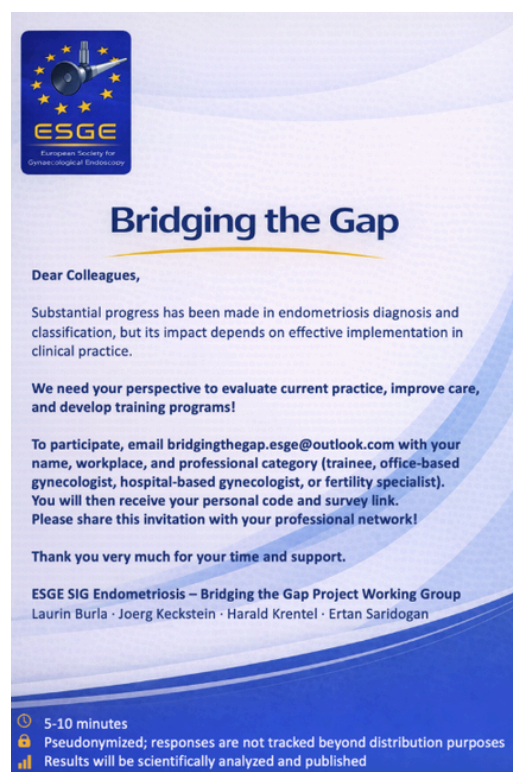
Looking ahead

The years 2026–2028 will be busy and exciting for the Endometriosis SIG. Beyond the two flagship projects, we plan dedicated SIG sessions at the upcoming ESGE Annual Congresses, contributions to *Facts, Views and Vision in ObGyn*, continued close cooperation with our corporate societies and additional projects regarding teaching and training.

Thank you for your continued support of our work. Together, we are looking forward to a productive and inspiring term.

Warm regards,
Harald Krentel

Chair, ESGE Special Interest Group Endometriosis (2026–2028)
on behalf of the SIG Steering Committee



News From ESGE Special Interest Groups



Brunella Zizolfi
Chair of the ESGE Special Interest
Group Hysteroscopy

Hysteroscopy

Over the past months, the ESGE Hysteroscopy Special Interest Group has continued to strengthen its scientific and educational activities, with the shared ambition of advancing evidence-based hysteroscopic practice, fostering international collaboration, and supporting the education of the next generation of hysteroscopists.

One of our major ongoing initiatives is the development of the **ESGE–Chinese Society Guideline on the Diagnosis and Management of Endometrial Polyps**. This collaborative project brings together leading experts from Europe and China to produce practical, evidence-based recommendations that reflect both the best available scientific evidence and real-world clinical practice.

The guideline will address the management of endometrial polyps across a broad range of clinical scenarios, including women of reproductive age, infertility patients, postmenopausal women, tamoxifen users, and asymptomatic patients. Particular attention is being devoted to patient selection, indications for hysteroscopic treatment, office versus operating room management, fertility implications, follow-up strategies, and areas where evidence remains limited. Beyond its scientific value, this collaboration represents an important opportunity to harmonise clinical practice internationally and further strengthen the partnership between ESGE and our Chinese colleagues.

Another major project currently underway is the development of the **GESEA Expert Level Diploma in Hysteroscopy**. The working group is defining the philosophy, structure, and requirements of this new advanced certification pathway, designed to recognise excellence in modern hysteroscopic surgery beyond procedural experience alone. The proposed diploma will establish high standards for advanced clinical competence by integrating surgical expertise, clinical decision-making, ultrasound–hysteroscopy correlation, complication management, and a commitment to continuous professional development. This initiative represents an important step towards harmonising advanced hysteroscopic training and certification across Europe.

Several educational activities have already marked the recent work of the SIG. **The FVO Podcast Series** has become an accessible platform for discussing current challenges, emerging evidence, and innovations in hysteroscopy with internationally recognised experts. In addition, our recent ESGE webinar, **"Unveiling Müllerian Anomalies: Advances in Hysteroscopic Diagnosis and Treatment,"** was met with excellent participation and highly positive feedback, confirming the strong interest in structured educational initiatives focused on complex intrauterine pathology. Building on this success, the SIG will continue expanding its webinar programme over the coming months.

Alongside these activities, work continues on educational webinars, international collaborations, and structured reporting initiatives aimed at improving consistency in hysteroscopic diagnosis and treatment while facilitating knowledge exchange among ESGE members. These projects remain central to our mission of promoting high-quality, evidence-based hysteroscopic care.

Education continues to be one of the cornerstones of our strategy. We firmly believe that investing in young clinicians is essential for the future of our speciality. In this context, the SIG actively supports advanced educational programmes, including the Second-Level Masterclasses in Hysteroscopy organised in Naples. These programmes combine lectures, live surgery, case discussions, ultrasound–hysteroscopy integration, and hands-on training to provide comprehensive education in the management of complex intrauterine pathology.

Looking ahead, the Hysteroscopy SIG remains committed to expanding international collaborations, developing high-quality educational opportunities, and producing evidence-based guidance that supports clinicians in everyday practice. Through research, education, innovation, and multidisciplinary cooperation, we continue working towards our common vision: making hysteroscopy safer, more accessible, and increasingly standardised across Europe and beyond.

We look forward to meeting many of you at the upcoming ESGE Annual Congress, where we will continue sharing knowledge, discussing new evidence, and building together the future of hysteroscopy.

News From ESGE Special Interest Groups



Luis Alonso Pacheco

Chair of the ESGE Special Interest
Group Imaging

Imaging and Ultrasound in Surgical Decision-Making

As gynaecological surgeons, we are increasingly aware that many important surgical decisions are made long before entering the operating room. Diagnosis, anatomical assessment, case selection, counselling, referral, and surgical planning all begin before the first incision. In this process, imaging — and particularly ultrasound — has become an essential part of modern surgical thinking.

For many years, diagnostic imaging was seen mainly as a complementary tool. It helped us confirm a diagnosis, describe a lesion, or complete the preoperative work-up. Today, this view feels too limited. In daily practice, ultrasound is often one of the key elements that helps us decide whether surgery is needed, which approach is safest, what difficulties we should anticipate, and whether additional expertise or a multidisciplinary team may be required.

Ultrasound offers something especially valuable for surgeons: immediate, dynamic, real-time information. It helps us understand pelvic anatomy before surgery, assess the relationship between organs, define the extent of disease, and adapt our strategy to each individual patient. This is particularly relevant in conditions such as endometriosis, fibroids, adenomyosis, adnexal pathology, Müllerian anomalies, intrauterine disease, and complex pelvic adhesions.

Good preoperative imaging can change the surgical plan. It can influence the route of surgery, the need for bowel or urinary tract expertise, the expected level of difficulty, the timing of the procedure, and even the decision to refer the patient to a more specialised centre. These are not minor details. They have a direct impact on patient safety, surgical outcomes, informed consent, theatre organisation, and use of resources.

For this reason, I believe ultrasound should have a stronger place in the training and mindset of gynaecological surgeons. This does not mean that every surgeon must become an expert sonographer, nor does it mean replacing the work of imaging specialists. It means that surgeons should be able to understand imaging findings and integrate them into surgical decision-making with confidence.

Within the ESGE, and especially through the Imaging SIG, we have a valuable opportunity to promote this vision. Our role should be to make imaging education practical, accessible, and directly relevant to surgical practice. Surgeons need training that is not only theoretical, but also based on real cases, real anatomical questions, and real surgical decisions.

A useful first step could be the development of a pilot hands-on ultrasound training project for gynaecological surgeons. This pilot could serve as a preliminary study to evaluate feasibility, educational needs, learning curves, and the potential impact of ultrasound training on surgical decision-making. It could combine online theoretical content, video-based learning, supervised practical sessions, and multidisciplinary case discussions.

Such a project would help us identify what surgeons really need to know from ultrasound, how these skills can be taught effectively, and how imaging could be integrated into the wider educational pathway of ESGE. It would also create an opportunity for collaboration between surgeons, ultrasound experts, radiologists, and educators, with a shared goal: better preparation, safer surgery, and better care for our patients.

Ultrasound is not only a diagnostic tool. In the hands and mind of a surgeon, it becomes a bridge between clinical assessment and the operating room. It helps us transform anatomical information into surgical strategy.

Imaging gives us the map. Ultrasound helps us read it before the journey begins.

News From ESGE Special Interest Groups



Nucelio Lemos

Chair of the ESGE Special Interest
Group Neuropelveology

Neuropelveology: Structuring Progress in Complex Pelvic Pain

In 2026, the ESGE Neuropelveology Special Interest Group (SIG) is moving from concept-building to structured implementation, with a clear focus on education, scientific output, and multidisciplinary collaboration.

A major milestone this year is the development of the GESEA Expert Level 3 Neuropelveology Diploma. This integrated program combines e-learning, theoretical assessment, and cadaver-based practical evaluation, addressing a critical gap in standardised training. Beyond certification, the SIG is building a longitudinal pathway with quarterly case discussions and a planned observership program.

Education remains at the forefront. Two focused webinars—on parametrial endometriosis (June 25, 2026) and intrapelvic somatic neuralgias (November 26, 2026)—will tackle complex and often underrecognized conditions. These sessions highlight a core principle of neuropelveology: combining radical disease excision with preservation of pelvic nerve function through anatomy-driven, nerve-sparing strategies.

Scientific activity is advancing in parallel. The SIG is leading collaborative work on a systematic review of somatic nerve endometriosis and a consensus paper on intraoperative nerve monitoring, aiming to strengthen the evidence base and guide clinical practice.

At the ESGE Annual Congress 2026, the SIG will contribute with plenary sessions and a pre-congress course on chronic pelvic and perineal pain, fostering dialogue across gynaecology, urology, colorectal surgery, and pain medicine.

Together, these efforts reflect a clear direction: positioning neuropelveology as a structured, evidence-based discipline that improves surgical practice and patient outcomes in complex pelvic pain.

News From ESGE Special Interest Groups



Ramon Rovira Negre

Chair of the ESGE Special Interest
Group Oncology

Oncology

The ESGE Oncology Special Interest Group continues to expand its educational and scientific activities with the aim of strengthening collaboration, surgical standardisation and innovation in minimally invasive gynecologic oncology across Europe.

Following the successful development of the GESEA Level III programme in Gynecologic Oncology, created through the collaboration between ESGE and ESGO, several new initiatives are now underway. One of the most exciting developments is the recent creation of a dedicated Minimally Invasive Surgery Special Interest Group within ESGO, opening the door to new collaborative projects between ESGE, ESGO and SERGS.

Among the major projects currently being developed is a joint initiative focused on the standardisation of complex minimally invasive oncologic procedures and the creation of validated tools for objective surgical assessment. The project will initially focus on two key domains of gynecologic oncologic surgery:

- Sentinel lymph node mapping and pelvic lymphadenectomy
- Omentectomy and dissection of the lateral pelvic spaces

As indications for systematic surgical staging continue to evolve — particularly with the increasing adoption of sentinel lymph node techniques — the need for high-quality standardised surgical descriptions becomes even more important. These procedures may become less frequently performed in daily practice, making structured educational resources essential for future generations of surgeons.

Dedicated international working groups are currently performing a hierarchical task analysis for each procedure, allowing a detailed and reproducible description of every surgical step. The resulting documents will subsequently undergo evaluation through a modified Delphi consensus process involving multidisciplinary experts from the three participating societies. The objective is to create internationally endorsed procedural standards that can serve as references for training, quality assurance and multicentre research initiatives.

Educational activity remains another central pillar of the Oncology SIG. During 2026, the group has actively participated in several international educational events and webinars, including sessions dedicated to robotic versus conventional total laparoscopic hysterectomy, advanced pelvic vascular anatomy and the role of minimally invasive surgery in recurrent gynecologic cancer. A dedicated webinar focused on minimally invasive surgery in ovarian cancer is also planned for early 2027.

Gynecologic Oncology will also have a reinforced presence during the upcoming ESGE Annual Congress in Krakow, Poland (4–7 October 2026). A dedicated pre-congress course will address several highly relevant topics, including updated indications for minimally invasive surgery in oncology, advanced retroperitoneal anatomy, prevention and management of surgical complications, sentinel lymph node techniques, radical hysterectomy, robotic surgery and minimally invasive approaches for advanced ovarian cancer.

In addition, multiple congress sessions will provide updated perspectives on the role of minimally invasive surgery in gynecologic oncology, including the presentation of new data from the RACC Trial by Professor Henrik Falconer.

Through these initiatives, the Oncology SIG aims to continue promoting excellence in surgical education, international collaboration and evidence-based innovation in gynecologic oncology. We warmly invite ESGE members interested in this rapidly evolving field to participate in our future projects and educational activities.

News From ESGE Special Interest Groups



Antoine Watrelot

Chair of the ESGE Special Interest
Group Quality, Safety & Legal
Aspects

Quality, Safety & Legal Aspects

The Special Interest Group (SIG) on Quality, Safety, and Legal Aspects continues to develop initiatives aimed at improving clinical practice, patient safety, and medico-legal awareness among its members. These efforts are grounded in the recognition that technical excellence in minimally invasive surgery must be accompanied by robust communication skills, risk management strategies, and access to expert guidance in complex situations.

During the most recent ESGE congress held in Istanbul, the SIG had planned to deliver a dedicated workshop focusing on communication and teamwork in surgery, particularly in high-risk or adverse event scenarios. Effective communication—both within the surgical team and with patients—has been widely recognised as a cornerstone of patient safety and a key determinant of medico-legal outcomes. Unfortunately, this workshop could not be conducted due to insufficient and probably late registrations. While this was a logistical limitation, it highlighted the need to adapt educational formats to better meet the expectations and availability of participants.

The SIG is expanding its educational strategy through the realisation of a webinar focused on human factors in surgery. Human factors, including situational awareness, teamwork, decision-making under stress, and error management, are increasingly acknowledged as critical contributors to surgical outcomes. The planned webinar aims to provide ESGE members with practical insights into these non-technical skills, thereby complementing technical surgical training and enhancing overall safety in clinical practice.

Beyond education, the SIG is proposing a novel and highly practical initiative: the creation of a dedicated hotline for ESGE members. This service would enable practitioners facing complications or medico-legal concerns to obtain expert advice within 24 hours. The concept is inspired by a similar system that has been successfully implemented in France for over 15 years, demonstrating its value in supporting clinicians during critical situations. Such a hotline would provide timely access to specialised opinions, potentially reducing the escalation of complications, improving decision-making, and offering reassurance to practitioners.

From a medico-legal perspective, early access to expert guidance can be instrumental in mitigating risk, ensuring appropriate documentation, and facilitating transparent communication with patients. Moreover, this service would contribute to a culture of safety by encouraging clinicians to seek advice proactively rather than in isolation.

The proposed hotline also represents a significant added value for ESGE membership. In an increasingly complex medical and legal environment, the availability of rapid, expert support aligns with the needs of practising surgeons and reinforces the society's commitment to its members.

In conclusion, the SIG on Quality, Safety, and Legal Aspects is pursuing a comprehensive approach that integrates education, practical support, and innovation. While challenges such as workshop attendance remain, the ongoing initiatives—including webinars on human factors and the proposed hotline—underscore the group's commitment to enhancing patient safety and supporting clinicians across Europe.

News From ESGE Special Interest Groups



Diego Raimondo

Chair of the ESGE Special Interest
Group Robotics

Robotics

With the rapid diffusion of robotic platforms, new technologies and their implementation in clinical practice have become the standard over the course of the last few years in gynaecology, now the real challenge is how to use these innovations well and to their full potential. Defining standards, finding the ideal clinical indications and adapting surgical strategies to increasingly complex clinical scenarios will define the next era of robotic implementation in this speciality. In this context, the ESGE SIG Robotics has further solidified its position in 2026 as a leading hub for education, research, and surgical innovation.

Results from a Delphi process: tailoring docking strategies to the patients.

One of the SIG's core strengths is its ability to build consensus among highly experienced surgeons. Recently, a dedicated Delphi process focused on robotic hysterectomy using the Hugo RAS platform explored how port placement should be adapted to the difficulty of the procedure and the patient's anatomy.

The findings confirmed that no single port placement is universally superior. Instead, the system's flexibility allows surgeons, once proficient, to completely personalise the setup based on the specific clinical case and personal preference. The factors that were identified by the experts as requiring setup adjustments included high Body Mass Index, enlarged uterine size and small pelvis.

These Delphi discussions often bring to light innovative "local" solutions that were previously confined to a single operating room. For instance, a new setup proposed by one participant received high levels of agreement, showing how these studies can help disseminate effective new strategies via peer-reviewed literature.

Additionally, a future collaborative initiative with the ESGE Endometriosis SIG will address the technical nuances of robotic surgery for endometriosis. Given the disease's complexity, this effort aims to provide practical guidance and reduce the current heterogeneity in surgical approaches.

Defining quality: what metrics and benchmarks should be used in robotic surgery?

Now that robotic surgery has been part of routine clinical practice for years, one objective for the scientific community should be the definition of objective metrics or outcomes to assess the performance quality of robotic procedures.

Applying this approach to hysterectomy, as well as other procedures, could become an important direction for the future, with the aim of defining clinically relevant cut-offs. This topic is increasingly recognised as fundamental for clinical practice and to assess quality of care, although its feasibility and implementation still require further discussion within the community.

GESEA Robotics pathway and pre-congress courses

Education remains central to the SIG's activity. The GESEA Robotics pathway continues to expand and evolve, refining its role as a progressive training program capable of supporting surgeons at different stages of their learning curve.

In parallel, the SIG has actively contributed to the annual ESGE Congress, supporting dedicated robotic sessions and pre-congress courses.

Looking ahead

As the use of robotics becomes more common in clinical practice and indications continue to expand, the focus is progressively shifting from adoption and feasibility to optimisation and outcomes. Defining quality standards, refining technical strategies, and developing training pathways are now the priority and will push the technology forward in the coming years.

Through its collaborative efforts, the ESGE Robotics SIG continues to aim to translate technological progress into meaningful benefits for patients.

Regards,

Diego Raimondo, MD, PhD

ESGE SIG Chair-Elect in Robotics

News From ESGE Special Interest Groups



Lina Antoun

Chair of the ESGE Special Interest
Group Training & Education

Training & Education

During the past year, the ESGE Special Interest Group (SIG) for Training and Education has continued to consolidate its role as a leading platform for advancing high-quality, standardised educational initiatives in minimally invasive gynaecological surgery (MIGS). Building on the momentum of previous activities, the SIG has expanded its educational portfolio through innovative webinars, collaborative research projects, simulation-based training initiatives, and advanced surgical courses designed to support surgeons across all stages of training.

One of the major achievements this year was the successful delivery of a highly attended international webinar on Functional Anatomy for Endometriosis, Oncology and Urogynaecological Surgery. The webinar attracted more than 300 registrations, reflecting the increasing global demand for structured anatomical education relevant to complex pelvic surgery. Additional webinars are also being planned, with future topics and faculty to be finalised during upcoming SIG meetings.

A further exciting educational development was the planned Hands-on Laparoscopic Cadaveric Dissection for Retroperitoneal Pelvic Anatomy, Advanced Gynaecological Surgery and Robotic Simulation Course, which took place on 15th July 2026 in the United Kingdom.

The SIG is also actively contributing to international congress education. A dedicated laparoscopic myomectomy pre-congress workshop is being planned as part of the ESGE Congress in Kraków, Poland. This workshop will focus on advanced suturing techniques, fibroid mapping, haemostatic strategies and fertility-preserving surgical approaches. Building on the strong interest in fibroid surgery training, the SIG is also planning future laparoscopic myomectomy courses under the ESGE educational framework, further strengthening hands-on surgical training opportunities for members.

The group continues to strongly support the implementation and expansion of the GESEA programme within the United Kingdom. Current collaborative work includes involvement in a national surgical skills project evaluating simulation-based training pathways and structured competency development in MIGS. This work aims to generate meaningful data regarding training progression, skill acquisition and educational outcomes within UK-based simulation programmes.

In parallel, the SIG is preparing outcome data for publication relating to GESEA training, including the integration and evaluation of AI-supported GESEA educational methodologies. These data are planned for submission to the Facts, Views & Vision in ObGyn journal and are expected to contribute important evidence regarding the future role of simulation and artificial intelligence in surgical education.

In addition to educational programmes, the SIG continues to strengthen its collaborative research portfolio. The group is currently collaborating on a multicentre survey investigating same-day discharge following laparoscopic hysterectomy, aiming to better understand current practice patterns and barriers to ambulatory gynaecological surgery pathways across different healthcare systems.

Looking ahead, the SIG remains committed to developing innovative educational strategies, expanding simulation-based learning, promoting evidence-based surgical training and supporting the next generation of minimally invasive gynaecological surgeons through collaborative international education and research initiatives.

ESGE Training & Education SIG Cadaveric Dissection Course: Investing in the Future of Surgical Education



The ESGE Special Interest Group (SIG) for Training & Education was delighted to deliver a successful Cadaveric Dissection Course, bringing together 18 delegates from across Europe for an immersive, hands-on educational experience in advanced pelvic anatomy and minimally invasive gynaecological surgery.

Cadaveric dissection remains one of the most valuable educational tools available to gynaecological surgeons. It offers an unparalleled opportunity to gain a detailed understanding of retroperitoneal pelvic anatomy, refine advanced surgical techniques, and build the confidence required to safely perform complex procedures.

By linking anatomical knowledge with practical surgical skills, this type of training plays a crucial role in enhancing surgical performance, improving patient safety, and ultimately delivering better outcomes for women.



The programme combined expert-led anatomical demonstrations with extensive hands-on dissection, allowing delegates to deepen their understanding of key pelvic structures, surgical planes, and advanced operative approaches in a supportive learning environment. The enthusiasm and engagement shown by all 18 delegates throughout the course highlighted the growing demand for high-quality, anatomy-based surgical education.



One of the greatest strengths of the course was its outstanding faculty, including Ertan Saridogan, Lina Antoun, Hélder Ferreira, Andreas Hackethal, and Smruta

Shanbhag, who created a truly collaborative learning environment. Delegates benefited not only from expert anatomical teaching but also from the faculty's wealth of practical surgical experience, mentorship, and commitment to surgical education.

Following the excellent feedback received from delegates and faculty, we are delighted to announce that the ESGE Training & Education SIG plans to run the Cadaveric Dissection Course again next year, further expanding access to this unique educational opportunity. Our ambition is to continue developing anatomy- and simulation-based training across Europe, strengthening international collaboration, promoting surgical excellence, and supporting lifelong learning for gynaecological surgeons.

This course would not have been possible without the generous support of our industry partners. We extend our sincere thanks to Lina Kebomed and Medtronic for their commitment to advancing surgical education and supporting high-quality training opportunities for gynaecological surgeons across Europe.

We would also like to express our gratitude to the University of Leeds for hosting the course and for providing outstanding facilities that enabled delegates to benefit from an exceptional hands-on learning experience. Together, we are investing in the future of minimally invasive gynaecological surgery— where anatomical excellence translates into safer surgery and better care for women.

Lina Antoun
Chair of Training and Education SIG



International IDEA & MUSA Congress

9 - 11 April 2026 - Leuven, Belgium

A regional ESGE event

From Diagnosis to Advanced Care in Women's Health



International Deep Endometriosis Analysis

Morphological Uterus Sonographic Assessment



First International IDEA & MUSA Congress Draws Over 600 Participants to Leuven

An ESGE Regional Event — Leuven, Belgium, 9–11 April 2026

The first edition of the International IDEA & MUSA Congress, held at the University Hospitals Leuven and organised locally by Prof. Wouter Froyman, Prof. Dirk Timmerman, Prof. Thierry Van den Bosch, Prof. Carla Tomassetti, Dr. Celine Bafort, and Dr. Kobe Dewilde, welcomed more than 600 on-site and virtual participants. Endorsed as an ESGE regional event, it brought together leading experts in gynaecology, imaging, and minimally invasive surgery around two key domains in women's health: endometriosis (IDEA Congress, Day 1) and uterine fibroids (MUSA Congress, Day 2), followed by the Interuniversity Course on Gynaecological Ultrasound on Day 3.

The links with ESGE were evident throughout the programme. Several ESGE faculty members featured among the speakers, including Prof. Wouter Froyman, Prof. Stavros Karampelas, Prof. Laurent de Landsheere, and Prof. Felix Neis, covering topics from laparoscopic and robotic approaches to myomectomy to thermoablation techniques, while ESGE President Prof. Ertan Saridogan lectured on the organisation of endometriosis referral centres. The strong presence of minimally invasive surgery across both congress days reflected the shared mission of ESGE and the organisers to advance surgical excellence in benign gynaecology and to build the bridge between imaging and surgery.

With its successful first edition, the IDEA & MUSA Congress has earned its place on the calendar of European gynaecological meetings and is expected to return as a biennial event.

Save the date: the 7th International IOTA Congress on the diagnosis and management of gynaecological tumours takes place in Leuven from 8 to 10 April 2027, with parallel sessions on gynaecological ultrasound. More information on www.iotagroup.org.

Egyptian Society of Endometriosis and ESGE Regional Meeting



The joint ESE–ESGE Regional Meeting, held in Cairo on 28–29 March 2026 as part of ENDO Egypt 2026, marked a significant milestone in the collaboration between the Egyptian Society of Endometriosis (ESE) and the European Society of Gynaecological Endoscopy (ESGE). Bringing together leading international faculty and regional experts, the meeting provided an outstanding platform for scientific exchange, professional networking, and the dissemination of the latest evidence in the diagnosis and management of endometriosis and adenomyosis.



The two-day scientific program featured state-of-the-art lectures, expert panel discussions, clinical debates, and abstract presentations covering the full spectrum of contemporary care—from disease pathophysiology and advanced imaging to fertility preservation, minimally invasive surgery, and long-term management strategies. The meeting welcomed 1000 healthcare professionals from Egypt, the Middle East, and Europe, highlighting the growing importance of regional partnerships in advancing education and improving standards of women's healthcare.



The closing ceremony of the event took place in the New Cairo Museum, where faculty and participants experienced an amazing private tour and explanation on Egyptology.

The success of the Cairo Regional Meeting reinforces ESGE's commitment to building strong international collaborations and expanding access to high-quality educational programmes across the region. By working closely with national societies such as ESE, ESGE continues to promote excellence in gynaecological endoscopy, support professional development, and foster a global community dedicated to innovation, research, and improved patient outcomes in minimally invasive gynaecological surgery.



Prof Vasilios Tanos

Director of the ESE-ESGE Scientific Program





XIV CONGRESO DE LA SECCIÓN DE ENDOSCOPIA GINECOLÓGICA DE LA SEGO



27-29 de mayo de 2026

Palacio de congresos de Valencia

segoendoscopia2026.com

From May 27 to 29, we successfully hosted the XIV National Congress of Gynaecological Endoscopy in Valencia, with an innovative, participatory scientific program and a spirit of collaboration with countries across Europe and Latin America.

A unique feature of this edition was an "expert meeting" held on the first day in conjunction with the European Society of Gynaecological Endoscopy (ESGE) to conduct an in-depth review of conditions of great importance to our patients, such as endometriosis and adenomyosis. For this session, we welcomed world-renowned specialists in these conditions who, alongside national experts, provided updates on the latest advancements using various minimally invasive approaches.

The second and third days of the congress adopted a highly practical and participatory format. Mornings were dedicated to live surgeries addressing various pathologies via laparoscopic, robotic, hysteroscopic, and vNOTES approaches, with a particular focus on the use of new technologies. A highlight was the performance of 13 live surgeries, including a shared endometriosis procedure using the Da Vinci robotic system conducted jointly with the Society of European Robotic Gynaecological Surgery (SERGS) congress in Stockholm.

Congress proceedings were streamed to over 15 societies in Latin America, enabling more than 500 participants from across the Atlantic to join in and helping to strengthen scientific ties with our colleagues in the region.



Fibroid Awareness Month

From Parliament to Practice: Fibroid Fighters Unite at the RCOG 10 Union Street London to Turn Advocacy into Action

Though not an ESGE-organised event, it was attended by the president of the ESGE and other internationally recognised fibroid management experts.

July is Fibroid Awareness Month, a time to reflect on the millions of women worldwide affected by uterine fibroids, to raise awareness of their impact on quality of life, and to renew our commitment to improving care. Across the world, clinicians, researchers, patient advocates and professional societies have marked the month with educational events, highlighting the growing momentum to transform fibroid care.

Over recent years, there has been a paradigm shift in the management of uterine fibroids, moving away from a 'one-size-fits-all' approach towards truly individualised, patient-centred care. This evolution has been driven by advances in medical therapy, minimally invasive surgery, interventional radiology, imaging, and, importantly, by the voices of women living with fibroids.

The month began with the launch of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG) Mission Statement on the Future of Uterine Fibroid Care at the UK Houses of Parliament. Led by Christine Ekechi, the statement recognised the need to bring together government, healthcare providers, patient advocacy groups, academia and industry to reduce inequalities, improve data collection and ensure equitable access to evidence-based fibroid care. This landmark event provided the perfect platform for the inaugural UK Fibroid Summit.

Following this, the RCOG hosted the inaugural UK Fibroid Summit at 10 Union Street, London, under the theme 'From Advocacy to Action'. Organised and co-chaired by Funlayo Odejinmi and Mez Aref-Adib, the meeting opened with welcoming remarks from RCOG President Alison Wright before bringing together clinicians, researchers, patient advocates and international experts committed to transforming fibroid care.

The programme began with a powerful patient-centred session, including the film *Mango*, which vividly illustrates the impact of fibroids on women's lives, followed by *Dawn Heels* from The Guidance Suite, a UK-based patient advocacy and education charity. Sateria Venables, Founder and CEO of The Fibroid Foundation (USA), highlighted the success of clinician–patient collaboration through initiatives such as COMPARE-UF and the COEQUAL programme to address disparities in fibroid care.

International perspectives were provided by Professor Elizabeth Stewart, while Professor Andrea Tinelli discussed the importance of preserving the fibroid pseudocapsule during surgery. Professor Ertan Saridogan, President of ESGE, reviewed contemporary evidence-based fibroid management; Professor Justin Clark discussed hysteroscopic management, Natalie Nunes presented radiofrequency ablation, Ian Renfrew reviewed uterine artery embolisation, and Joel Naftalin highlighted the need for standardisation and equitable access to high-quality ultrasound. Robotic surgery, laparoscopic myomectomy, delivery after myomectomy, and integrated care pathways across primary, secondary and tertiary care completed a comprehensive scientific programme.

The meeting concluded with Kate Lancaster, Chief Executive Officer of the RCOG, reinforcing the College's commitment to translating advocacy into meaningful action. Delegates agreed that the time for change is now and that improving fibroid care requires stronger multidisciplinary networks, high-quality data, collaborative research and equitable access to modern treatment options.

The inaugural UK Fibroid Summit demonstrated what can be achieved when professional societies, clinicians, researchers, patient advocates, policymakers and industry unite behind a common purpose. We hope this model of collaboration will now be propagated across Europe and beyond, with similar meetings taking place in other countries and partner organisations. By sharing expertise, harmonising standards, building international fibroid networks and amplifying the patient voice, we can accelerate progress towards equitable, evidence-based and truly individualised fibroid care for women worldwide.



Mez Aref-Adib



Funlayo Odejinmi

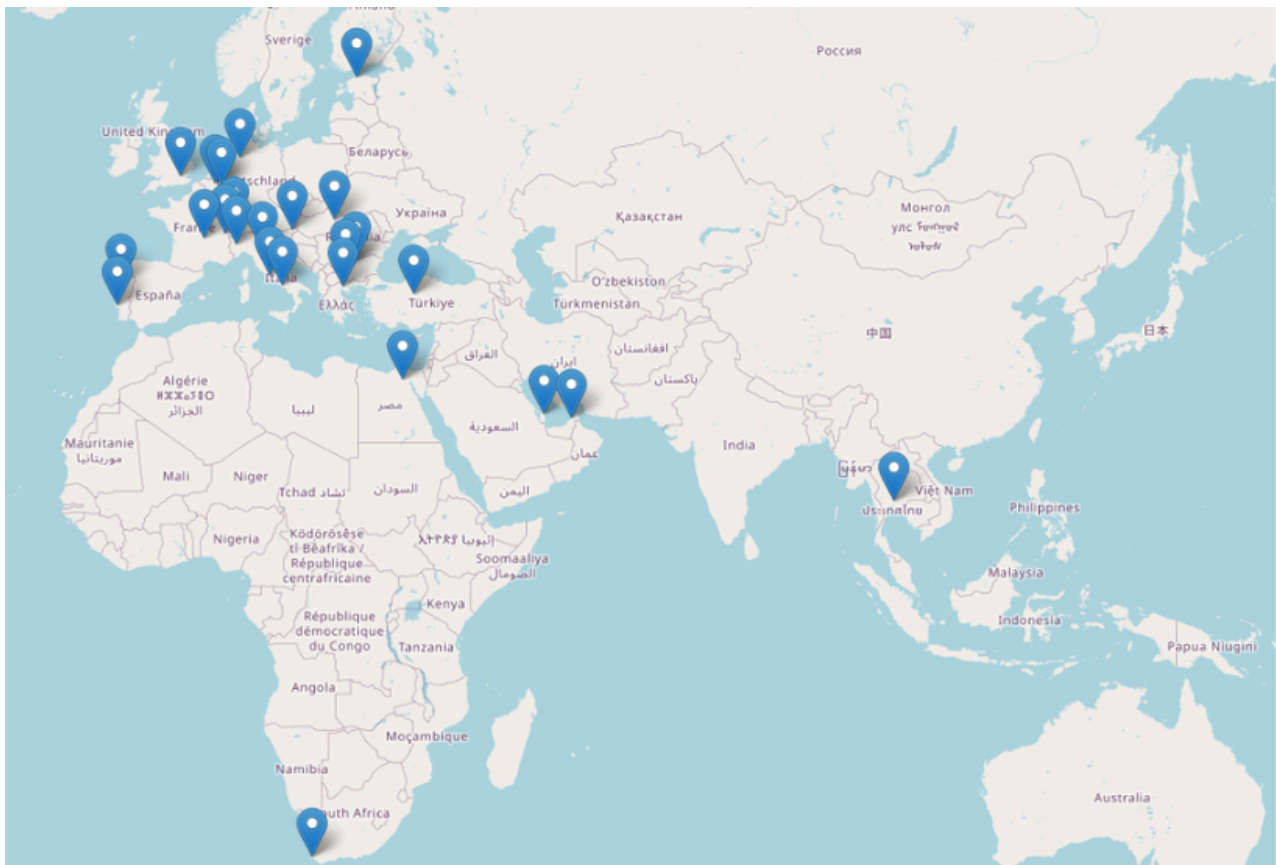
GESEA Expansion: Highlights – GESEA Centres & Activities

Global Reach & Impact

The Gynaecological Endoscopic Surgical Education & Assessment (GESEA) Programme continues to advance its mission of delivering high-quality, standardised training and certification in minimally invasive gynaecological surgery. The programme has built a robust and steadily expanding network of accredited centres dedicated to raising the global standard of surgical education.

Expanding GESEA Network

Today, the GESEA network brings together 13 GESEA Diploma Centres, 11 Training Centres, and 1 GESEA Diploma Society (BSGE), representing a vibrant community across 17 countries and 3 continents. This geographic diversity highlights GESEA's strong international footprint and the growing recognition of the value of structured endoscopic training and certification worldwide. Notably, 8 Training Centres achieved accreditation in 2024 and 2025, underscoring the programme's recent momentum and the increasing number of institutions committed to endorsing GESEA's high educational standards.



Educational Calendar:
<https://www.esqe.org/events/>



GESEA Accredited Centres: <https://www.esge.org/gesea-centres/>



As this global network continues to grow, ESGE & ESGE Academy warmly welcome institutions interested in becoming part of the GESEA educational ecosystem. Organisations seeking accreditation can consult our **Becoming an Accredited GESEA Training Centre Brochure** for comprehensive guidance on eligibility, requirements, the audit process, and how to apply.

For direct inquiries, interested institutions are invited to contact the ESGE Academy Central Office at info@esge.org.

Becoming an Accredited GESEA Training Centre Brochure:

https://gesea.eu/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/ESGE_GESEA-Training-Centre_brochure_2025.pdf



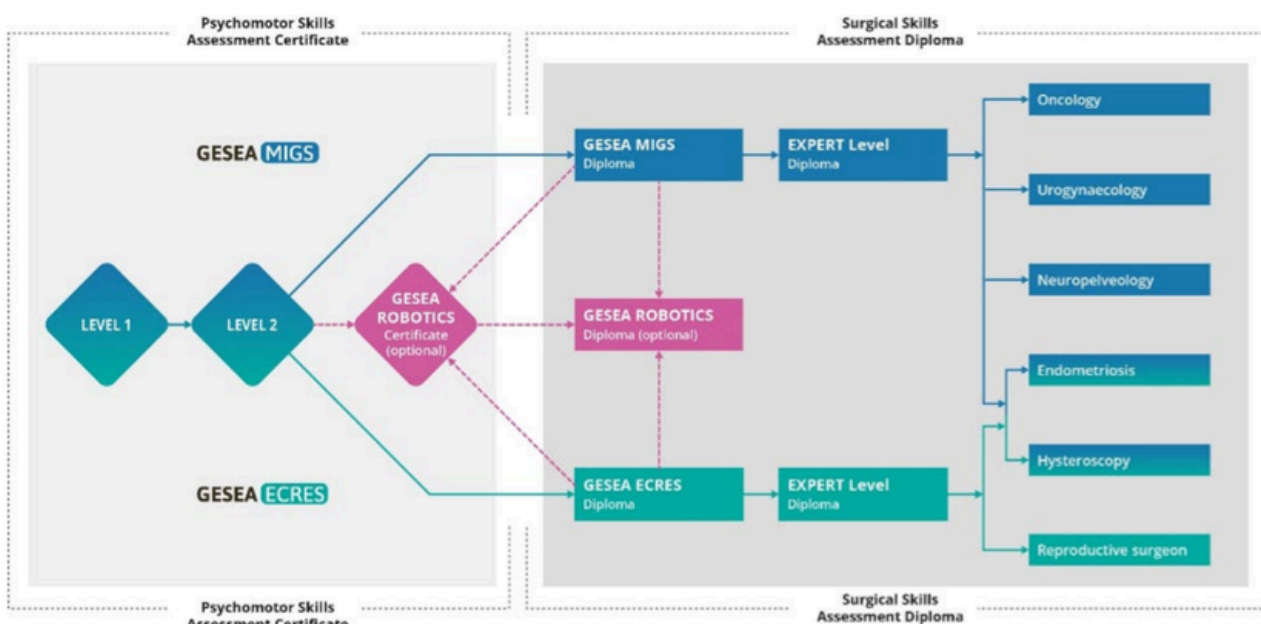
GESEA Pathway: Your Journey to Excellence in Endoscopic Surgery

The GESEA Educational Programme continues to set the international standard for structured, competency-based training and certification in endoscopic gynaecological surgery. Through a clear and progressive pathway, GESEA supports surgeons at every stage of their professional development — **from fundamental skills to expert-level mastery.**

The GESEA Pathway at a Glance - [GESEA.EU](https://gesea.eu)



A clear visual overview of all certification levels and pathways ensures participants and centres can navigate the programme effortlessly.



GESEA Level 1 & Level 2 Certification – Psychomotor skills assessment

At the heart of the programme is GESEA's validated assessment system, combining **psychomotor** skills and **knowledge evaluation** in both laparoscopy and hysteroscopy.

- **Level 1:** Your foundational certificate, confirming essential endoscopic skills.
- **Level 2 MIGS / ECRES:** An advanced credential demonstrating increased skill levels preparing the candidate to move to the next step of the GESEA curriculum – GESEA MIGS Diploma.

These internationally recognised certificates ensure that every candidate progresses with confidence, precision, and proven competence.

GESEA MIGS Diploma – Surgical skills assessment

For surgeons committed to advancing their clinical practice, the **GESEA MIGS Diploma** is the **essential next milestone**.

Building on the Level 2 certificate, the **MIGS Diploma** moves beyond psychomotor and cognitive assessment and focuses on **surgical skills evaluation**.

It is the definitive qualification for surgeons seeking to strengthen their surgical proficiency and advance to the expert levels of the GESEA pathway.

Find out more: Watch the MIGS Diploma Video

<https://vimeo.com/1140379986?fl=ip&fe=ec>



GESEA Expert Level Diploma

After the MIGS Diploma, the GESEA Expert Level provides the next stage of progression, focusing on advanced endoscopic performance and assessing higher-level technical abilities together with the judgment required for more complex procedures.

GESEA remains committed to fostering high-quality education, validated assessment, and a culture of excellence across the global endoscopic community.

Contact us via info@esge.org for any enquiries related to the GESEA Educational Programme.

GESEA Level 3 Expert Level Oncology Diploma

Take Your Oncologic Surgery Skills to the Next Level: Introducing the **GESEA Expert Level Diploma in Oncology**

The landscape of gynaecological oncology is evolving at remarkable speed — and so are the expectations for surgical precision, safety, and minimally invasive mastery. For surgeons ready to raise their expertise to the highest standard, the **GESEA Expert Level Diploma in Oncology** offers a pathway for those seeking to deepen their expertise.

Developed by the European Society for Gynaecological Endoscopy (ESGE) in collaboration with the European Society of Gynaecological Oncology (ESGO), this advanced pathway represents a **recognised mark of expertise in minimally invasive gynaecologic oncology**.

ESGE | ESGO Working Group



Why Consider the GESEA Expert Level Diploma in Oncology?

The programme has been crafted for surgeons who are passionate about advancing their practice in complex oncologic procedures. Through a combination of structured e-learning, immersive observerships in accredited centres, and rigorous peer-reviewed assessment of real surgical cases, candidates are provided with a clear, supportive, and internationally respected route to demonstrating true expert competence.

A Diploma That Stands Apart:

The GESEA Expert Level Diploma in Oncology is built on three pillars:

- **Cutting-edge theoretical knowledge** delivered through dedicated e-learning modules
- **First-hand exposure** during observerships in high-volume oncology units
- **Validated evaluation of surgical performance** through independent expert review

The result is a diploma that not only elevates your skills but also strengthens trust — from colleagues, institutions, and most importantly, patients.

Who Should Apply?

This pathway is ideal for specialists who already have solid experience in minimally invasive surgery and aspire to become leaders in gynaecologic oncology. Whether you aim to refine specific techniques, seek international recognition, or simply wish to push your boundaries, this diploma is your next step.

Join the Future of Gynaecologic Oncology

Demand for highly trained surgeons in MIS oncology has never been greater. By undertaking the **GESEA Expert Level Diploma in Oncology**, you place yourself at the forefront of a new era — one where technical excellence, scientific credibility, and patient-centred care converge.

Are you ready to shape the future of gynaecological oncology surgery?

Step into the GESEA Expert Level Diploma in Oncology and let your expertise speak for itself.

GESEA eLearning Modules: [GESEA Expert Level | ESGE Academy](#)

Apply Now: [GESEA MIGS Pathway | GESEA Educational Programme](#)

GESEA TTTC Started in May 2026

The ESGE Training the Trainers Course and Certification Programme is designed to equip experienced gynaecological surgeons with educational skills, teaching methodologies, and leadership competencies required to become effective trainers in minimally invasive gynaecological surgery. The programme combines evidence-based principles of adult learning with practical strategies for delivering high-quality surgical education, ensuring that participants can confidently mentor the next generation of surgeons. Certified gynaecologists with GESEA L2 are eligible to apply to participate in GESEA TTTC.

Through a highly interactive curriculum, participants develop expertise in structured teaching, simulation-based training, feedback techniques, assessment methods, and the safe progression of surgical skills. The course emphasises creating supportive learning environments, promoting reflective practice, and applying internationally recognised standards in surgical education. Practical workshops, case discussions, and peer learning allow participants to translate educational theory into everyday clinical training.

Successful completion of the programme leads to ESGE Training the Trainers Certification, recognising participants' commitment to excellence in surgical education and professional development. The certification demonstrates that trainers have achieved a defined standard of educational competence and are prepared to deliver consistent, high-quality training in gynaecological minimally invasive surgery within their institutions and beyond.

By investing in the development of skilled surgical educators, the ESGE Training the Trainers Programme contributes to improving patient safety, enhancing surgical outcomes, and promoting excellence across Europe and internationally. Certified trainers become ambassadors for high standards in minimally invasive gynaecological surgery, fostering a culture of continuous learning, collaboration, and innovation that benefits both healthcare professionals and the patients they serve.

The next TTTC course will be performed in November 6-7, 2026.

Prof. Vasilios Tanos
Head GESEA TTTC

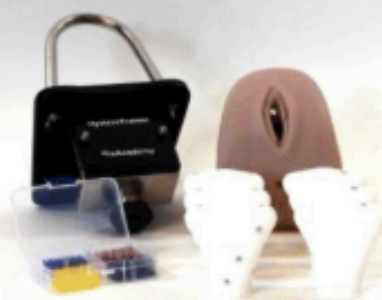


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Shaping the Future of GESEA Training with AI



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<https://esge-services.org>

Facts, Views and Vision Gyn: An update about our journal



Justin Clark
Editor in Chief, FVV Gyn

Dear ESGE members

You will be pleased to know that the journal is in good health and we are receiving a record number of submissions. The Italians are leading the way, followed by the Brits, but we receive regular submissions from all over Europe and the rest of the world, a testament to the fact that we are a truly global journal.

The increase in submitted articles means that our rejection rates are higher, but as a consequence, being more selective has raised the quality of accepted articles, and in time I expect to see our impact factor rise. I want FVVO to be the go-to minimal access gynaecological surgery journal, surpassing all other competitors out there in our field. At the moment, we publish quarterly (although papers are accessible on our website and via medical indexing services as published 'Ahead of Print'). I hope to move to 6 issues a year in time, subject to agreement from the ESGE.

With the Krakow ESGE Conference around the corner, as Editor-in-Chief of FVV Gyn, I am looking forward to publishing your abstracts in a supplementary edition of our journal – open access as usual.

I hope you are pleased with the changing shape of our ESGE journal, and I am, as always, dependent upon your support. Please submit articles, review, suggest ideas and read. We are a fantastic society – education, training, surgical courses, webinars, conferences, forums, etc., etc., but academic credentials are of key importance to convince any 'naysayers' that the innovations we, the ESGE, promote in women's health care via endoscopy, robotics, imaging and discovery science are supported by evidence.

Have a great Spring and happy reading

Justin



OPINION PAPER

DOI: 10.52054/FVVO.2025.248
Facts Views Vis Obgyn 2026;18(1):10-17

A proposed MRI classification of junctional zone morphology based on reproductive performance: the JZ-MRI ReproClass

● Rudi Campo¹, ● Stephan Gordts¹, ● Helena Van Kerrebroeck¹, ● Evy Gillet^{1,2}

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VIDEO COMMENTARY

DOI: 10.52054/FVVO.2026.290
Facts Views Vis Obgyn 2026;18(1):69-70

Hysteroscopic ablation of type 2 and type 3 fibroids using radiofrequency or microwave energy

● Alfonso Manzi¹, ● Sabrina Reppucci¹, ● Attilio di Spazio Sardo¹, ● Danilo Bonelli¹, ● Serena Guerna¹, ● Brunella Zicoli¹, ● Maurizio Guidi², ● Maria Chiara de Angelis²

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EDITORIAL

DOI: 10.52054/FVVO.2026.403
Facts Views Vis Obgyn 2026;18(1):3-6

Illuminating the surgical field: the expanding role of Indocyanine Green (ICG) in gynaecological surgery

● Lina Antoun¹, ● Gourab Misra², ● T. Justin Clark¹

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²Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust, Stoke-on-Trent, United Kingdom



ESGE PAGES

DOI: 10.52054/FVVO.2026.416
Facts Views Vis Obgyn 2026;18(1):57-66

Port placement and patient-specific docking strategies for robotic hysterectomy with the Hugo™ RAS system: an international Delphi consensus

● Diego Raimondo^{1*}, ● Enrico Pazzaglia^{1,2†}, ● Helder Ferreira³⁻⁵, ● Meera Ragavan⁶, ● Anne Katrine Friberg⁷, ● Mads Nielsen-Breining⁸, ● Giorgia Monterossi⁹, ● Giovanni Panico⁹, ● Andrea Rosati⁹, ● Sara Mastrovito¹⁰, ● Kristine Juul Hare¹¹, ● Danny Chou^{12,13}, ● Eric Francescangeli¹⁴, ● Jordi Cassadó Garriga¹⁵, ● Stefano Palmieri¹⁶, ● Harald Krentel^{17,18}, ● Laurent de Landsheere^{19*}, ● Dimitrios Balafoutas^{20*}, ● Mohamed Mabrouk^{21,22}, ● Renato Seracchioli^{1,2}, ● Francesco Fanfani^{10,11*}

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

DOI: 10.52054/FVVO.2026.241
Facts Views Vis Obgyn 2026;18(1):32-41

Surgical outcomes according to the degree of parametrial dissection with hysterectomy for deep endometriosis

● Manuel Maria Ianieri^{1,2}, ● Maria Vittoria Alesi³, ● Antonella Carcagni⁴, ● Matteo Figà³, ● Federica Campolo³, ● Denis Querleu³, ● Francesco Fanfani³, ● Anna Fagotti³

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A Look Back at the 26th AGE Congress in Berlin

AGE Congress 2026, Berlin: Professional Exchange, Innovations, and Awards

With a high number of participants, lively discussions, and cutting-edge contributions from research and practice, the 26th AGE Congress, held from April 16 to 18, 2026, in Berlin, offered a comprehensive overview of trends and developments in gynaecological endoscopy. In addition to new scientific findings, the focus was on surgical techniques, innovative training concepts, and technological developments.

The scientific program covered a broad spectrum of topics in operative gynaecology. In addition to current data and study results, the focus was on practice-relevant issues and the discussion of new surgical approaches. The high attendance at the sessions and the lively discussions underscored the participants' keen interest in the topics covered.

The diverse sessions were complemented by a well-attended industry exhibition where numerous companies presented current developments and innovations in the fields of endoscopy, robotics, and medical technology. The exhibition provided an opportunity to learn about new technologies and exchange ideas with industry representatives.

The event focused on personal exchanges between experienced surgeons, young professionals, and colleagues from various institutions, and many participants highlighted this as a particular highlight of the event.



Catering and industrial exhibition in the historic lobby.



Attendees at a lecture in the auditorium of the Langenbeck-Virchow-Haus.

Awards for Scientific Papers and Video Presentations

Once again this year, the AGE's scientific awards played a prominent role, recognizing impressive research and innovative video presentations.



Left to right: Jan Fauser, Dr. Sascha Hoffmann, Dr. Elvin Piriyeu und Prof. Julia C. Radosa.

The Kurt Semm Prize, awarded for outstanding video documentation of clinical and experimental work in the field of gynaecological endoscopy, went to Jan Fauser (Martin Luther Hospital, Berlin). He was honoured for his work on intercostal laparoscopic access.

Dr. Sascha Hoffmann (University Hospital Tübingen) was awarded the Hans Frangenheim Prize for his scientific work on the intraoperative assessment of lymph nodes in minimally invasive surgical procedures.

The Hans-Joachim-Lindemann Prize also recognised an outstanding scientific achievement in the field of gynaecological endoscopy. PD Dr. Elvin Piriyeu (Evangelical Hospital, Cologne) received the prize for his work on radiofrequency ablation as a treatment option for adenomyosis. A new feature this year was the Audience Award for the best video submission, presented for the first time. This required a new video format: for the first time, all submitted videos were screened in a separate room throughout the entire conference. Participants were able to view and rate the submissions independently of the main program.

Prof. Julia C. Radosa (Saarland University Hospital, Homburg) received the award for her video on optimising the outcomes of laparoscopic refertilization. The new format was very well received and provided even greater visibility for the submitted works.

High quality of the poster presentations

The poster exhibition also received a positive response. Numerous scientific papers were submitted and presented as part of the exhibition. The poster session was well attended and provided an opportunity for in-depth professional discussions.

The poster awards went to Dr. Christoph Cirkel (University Medical Centre Schleswig-Holstein, Lübeck), Dr. Lukas Schimunek (University Medical Centre Tübingen), and Dr. Katharina Gillen (Diakonie Clinic, Siegen). With these awards, the AGE recognised the high scientific quality of the submitted work and the dedication of the next generation of researchers.



Participants strike up conversations at the poster exhibition.



Two participants are looking at the posters in the poster exhibition.

Golden Scope Award: Special recognition for Past President Uwe A. Ulrich

A highlight of the general meeting was the presentation of the Golden Scope Award to Prof. Uwe A. Ulrich (Martin Luther Hospital, Berlin). With this award, sponsored by KARL STORZ, the AGE recognised his dedication to the professional association. As a long-standing board member and past president, Prof. Ulrich has played a key role in shaping the development of the AGE over many years. Numerous continuing education initiatives, conference formats, and projects within the professional association were launched or significantly advanced during his tenure.

With this award, the AGE thanked Prof. Ulrich for his dedication and bid him farewell as he stepped down from the board.



Left to right: PD Dr. Andreas Hackethal, Prof. Uwe A. Ulrich und Prof Bernd Bojahr bei der Mitgliederversammlung.

Positive Results

The conference mottos “Steal with your eyes” and “Learning for all” were reflected both in the scientific program and in the collegial exchanges. The high attendance at the sessions, the intensive discussion of current topics, and the positive response to new formats—such as the presentation of submitted videos and the audience award—underscored the dynamic development of gynaecological endoscopy within the AGE.

With numerous scientific insights, innovative ideas, and strong member participation, the 26th AGE Congress was a resounding success.

ESGE Corporate Member Societies

BSGE ASM 2026 Highlights



The BSGE Annual Scientific Meeting 2026 was our largest and most successful conference to date, bringing together a truly global community of minimally invasive gynaecological surgeons.

- Over 1,000 delegates attended the meeting.
- More than 400 abstract submissions were received, reflecting the outstanding quality and breadth of research within our speciality.
- Over 90 scientific presentations showcased the latest innovations, techniques and clinical research.
- Delegates represented more than 45 countries, reinforcing the ASM's position as a leading international scientific meeting.

World-Class Scientific Programme

The meeting featured up to five concurrent scientific streams, providing a comprehensive programme across the full spectrum of minimally invasive gynaecological surgery. The popular BSGE Cinema debuted with high-quality productions and expert MDT discussions, while internationally renowned faculty delivered outstanding educational sessions throughout the meeting.

A particular highlight was the Alec Turnbull Lecture, delivered by the internationally renowned Professor Kypros Nicolaides, whose inspiring presentation on fetoscopic surgery captivated the audience and received exceptional feedback.

Largest Exhibition to Date

The ASM hosted our largest-ever exhibition, spanning more than 22,000 square feet. The extensive exhibition space enabled delegates to engage with industry partners, explore the latest technologies, and experience innovations shaping the future of minimally invasive surgery.

Outstanding Networking and Social Programme

The conference offered an exceptional social programme, with four memorable networking events:

- The RIGS Educational Dinner
- The Welcome Reception with spectacular views across central London, including Big Ben.
- The Tower Bridge Event along the iconic Tower Bridge walkways
- The finale being The River Event aboard the luxury yacht Silver Sturgeon

These events provided invaluable opportunities for delegates, faculty and industry partners to connect in unique and memorable settings.

Exceptional Delegate Feedback

Delegate feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with 99% of participants reporting that attending the conference was likely or significantly likely to change their clinical practice. This outstanding result highlights the educational quality of the programme and the continuing value that the BSGE ASM delivers to clinicians, researchers and trainees from around the world.

Thank you to all those who attended and were part of this special and memorable conference.

BSGE Trainee Account



Lusekelo Mwenechanya
BSGE Trainee

Attending the BSGE Annual Scientific Meeting this year was such a valuable experience and one I'll remember throughout my training. As an obstetrics and gynaecology trainee at Whipps Cross, I was lucky enough to join our gynaecology team at the Queen Elizabeth II Centre in Westminster for a few days packed with learning, discussion, and inspiration. Having the conference in central London added something special to the event - stepping out between sessions to views of Westminster and some of London's most iconic landmarks made the whole experience feel even more memorable.

What struck me most throughout the conference was just how diverse and forward-thinking the programme was. There was a real sense that minimally invasive gynaecology is evolving rapidly, particularly with the growing integration of robotics, artificial intelligence and simulation-based training. Sessions such as *"The Digital Resident: AI, Robotics and the Future of Surgical Training"* and *"Simulation to Surgery: How Virtual Tools are Transforming Training"* generated huge discussion and reflected how technology is beginning to reshape both surgical education and clinical practice.

The robotics stream was another major highlight, with talks covering competency acquisition, single-site robotic surgery and comparisons between emerging robotic platforms. It was fascinating to hear international experts discuss where the speciality is heading and how innovation may improve both patient outcomes and trainee experience over the coming years.

We were all particularly inspired by Jessica Preshaw's presentation on developing a sustainable high-volume robotic gynaecology programme at Southmead, alongside her team's remarkable high-intensity theatre (HIT) lists, during which 24 robotic procedures were performed over a single weekend with most patients discharged the same day. It was an impressive demonstration of how innovation and efficient pathway design can transform patient care.

The live surgical demonstrations and cadaveric dissection sessions were also incredibly valuable from a trainee perspective. Watching experts break down complex anatomy and operative techniques in real time offered insights that are difficult to replicate elsewhere. Equally enjoyable were the video sessions showcasing advanced laparoscopic, robotic and hysteroscopic procedures, which sparked plenty of conversation amongst trainees about different surgical approaches and techniques.

Several of the free communication presentations also highlighted the growing focus on sustainability within gynaecological surgery, an area that is becoming increasingly relevant in everyday clinical practice. Particularly interesting was Zahra Azeem's presentation, *"Greener Endometriosis Surgery: A 4-Week Theatre Micro-Pilot to Reduce Unused Consumables and Waste in Laparoscopic Lists,"* which explored practical strategies to minimise unnecessary waste in theatre without compromising patient care or operative efficiency. Another thought-provoking presentation examined the wider environmental impact of delayed endometriosis care pathways, prompting important discussion around how improving efficiency within healthcare systems may benefit both patients and environmental sustainability.

One of the best parts of the meeting was attending alongside our team, who were showcasing several impressive projects across the conference. Seeing colleagues contribute to national discussions through posters and presentations was a real reminder of the strength of the department and the supportive academic culture within our team. It was motivating to be surrounded by people so passionate about improving care for women through research, innovation and surgical excellence.

An innovative project presented at the meeting was the implementation of a QR-based digital “ENDOeLIBRARY” across specialist endometriosis services within Barts Health NHS Trust. The project highlighted a practical approach to supporting NICE self-management guidance by providing patients with accessible, evidence-based resources throughout their treatment journey. It was encouraging to see how digital tools and patient education can be integrated into endometriosis MDT care to promote patient empowerment and more holistic management of chronic pelvic pain.

A particularly memorable session was the lively fibroid debate, “*Medical Management Will Soon Replace Surgery for Uterine Fibroids*”, between Mr Odejinmi and Ms Aref-Adib. The debate combined humour with genuinely thought-provoking discussion, setting the tone early on with some good-natured roasting from Ms Aref-Adib, which immediately had the audience engaged and laughing.

Beneath the humour, however, was an insightful exploration of the evolving balance between medical and surgical management of fibroids, with both speakers presenting compelling arguments from very different perspectives. The session perfectly captured the atmosphere of the conference as a whole - intellectually stimulating, interactive, and full of personality.

Overall, BSGE 2026 was an inspiring and thought-provoking meeting that reinforced just how dynamic and fast-moving our speciality has become. I left feeling motivated not only by the surgical innovation and academic discussions, but also by the sense of shared ambition amongst clinicians working to improve care for women with complex benign gynaecological conditions. It was a privilege to represent Whipps Cross at such an outstanding conference, and I am already looking forward to next year’s meeting in Bristol.



ESGE Corporate Member Societies

Update from the French Society of Gynecologic and Pelvic Surgery

930 SCGP members	873 participants in Paris 2025	43 partners in Paris 2025	23rd Annual Congress Bordeaux 2026
42 juniors in JMC Bordeaux	14 robotic curriculum slots	10K Patrick Madelenat mobility grant	20K SCGP research grant



Investing in the next generation

Education sits at the heart of everything SCGP does, with distinct programmes for juniors and senior surgeons alike:

- Junior Master Class — a one-day pre-congress course for trainees. Its 12th edition, in Bordeaux this September, will welcome 42 juniors.
- Robotic Surgery Curriculum — a one-year programme, delivered with support from Intuitive, giving 14 CCA/DJ fellows a solid theoretical and technical foundation in robot-assisted surgery.
- Excellence Pathway — an advanced track for juniors and seniors, supported by Medtronic, covering anatomy and endometriosis, minimally invasive surgery and hysteroscopy.
- SCGP Club — four themed sessions a year for members, each led by specialist experts.

Together, these programmes are designed to strengthen intergenerational transmission, offer structured and reproducible surgical training, and build genuine communities of practice around minimally invasive, endometriosis and robotic surgery.

Backing research and mobility

SCGP is putting real money behind the surgeons and researchers of tomorrow:

- The **Patrick Madelenat International Mobility Grant (€10,000)**, launched in 2025, supports young researchers undertaking clinical or research mobility abroad.
- The **SCGP Research Grant** for fertility and benign uterine disease (**€20,000**), created in 2020, has just been increased this year with support from Gedeon Richter.
- The **Scali-Villet Prize (€5,000)** rewards a completed, ongoing or planned study in pelvic floor disorders.

Taken together, these awards create a coherent pathway — from training, through mobility and research, to project development and the dissemination of results.

Innovation and the rise of FemTech

Digital health is becoming a core part of SCGP's identity. The **SCGP FemTech Lab**, launched at the Paris 2025 congress, brought together **eight start-ups** from the digital health and AI ecosystem focused on gynecologic surgery.

Building on that launch, several projects are now in the pipeline: the first **FemTech Talks** event, a curated **video library** of surgical and educational resources, and a new **SCGP mobile app** to improve access to society information and training. The underlying goal is to help surgeons understand and adopt new digital and AI tools safely and effectively.

Membership, governance and a wide institutional network

SCGP membership automatically includes ESGE membership; specific arrangements with SERGS are currently in development, and members benefit from preferential rates for Pari(s) Santé Femmes.

Behind the scenes, the society runs on eight active commissions, covering care organisation, initial and continuing education, scientific research, corporate relations, institutional relations, national and international networks, innovation and robotic surgery, and communication.

SCGP also maintains close ties with a broad range of scientific societies and institutions, including CNGOF, FFER, SIFEM, AGOF, CNP GO-GM, the Académie de Chirurgie, ESGE, SERGS, FIGO, SF2H, ARS-DGOS, CPAM, HAS and INCA.

Building a francophone and European network

International collaboration remains a strategic priority. SCGP has signed collaboration agreements with scientific societies in Lebanon, Belgium, Switzerland and Morocco, with further agreements expected soon. A dedicated francophone session at the annual congress continues to strengthen exchange between national and international communities.

Looking ahead, SCGP aims to deepen its francophone and European network, share best practice in minimally invasive and robotic surgery, and reinforce its collaboration with ESGE and the broader European community.

**LESS IS BETTER:
INNOVAZIONE,
DE-ESCALATION E
PRECISIONE IN
ENDOSCOPIA
GINECOLOGICA**

S A V E T H E D A T E

ROMA | 23-26 SETTEMBRE 2026

The 20th National Congress of SEGi, Italian Society of Gynaecology Endoscopy, will be hosted in Rome from 23 to 26 September 2026. The event aims to reflect the rapid evolution of gynaecological endoscopy and its growing role as a true standard of care. At the same time, artificial intelligence (AI) is emerging as a strategic ally in supporting clinical decision-making, optimising diagnostic and therapeutic pathways, and improving patient outcomes. Today's gynaecological surgery is increasingly oriented toward therapeutic de-escalation, with the goal of reducing surgical invasiveness and personalising treatments based on solid scientific evidence and a multidisciplinary assessment. The integration of advanced endoscopy and artificial intelligence opens new horizons: from automated intraoperative image analysis and surgical outcome prediction to advanced planning of conservative and fertility-preserving approaches.

Congress website: <https://www.segi2026.it/>

Scientific Programme: <https://ssl.bluevents.it/evento.asp?evID=64&IDm=997>

Abstract Submission: <https://ssl.bluevents.it/abstract.asp?evID=64&IDm=1002>

For more information:
segreteria@segionline.it

Congress Presidents:
Prof. Anna Fagotti, Prof. Francesco Fanfani

SEGi President:
Prof. Alberto Mattei

In Memoriam | Dr. Stephan Gordts (1947–2026)



With deep respect and sadness, we bid farewell to Dr. Stephan Gordts, honorary member of the European Society for Gynaecological Endoscopy (ESGE), who passed away on May 22, 2026.

Dr. Gordts was a pioneer in reproductive medicine and surgery, and one of the founders of modern fertility care in Belgium. He played a key role in the birth of the first IVF baby in Belgium in 1983 and founded the Leuven Institute for Fertility & Embryology (LIFE) in 1984, where he remained scientific director until his death.

Throughout his impressive career, he combined medical excellence with innovation and humanity. He gained international recognition for his work in minimally invasive fertility surgery and for the development of transvaginal hydrolaparoscopy — a technique that was applied and studied worldwide. With this technique, he was the first one to visualise and record the beauty of the normal ovulatory process.

In addition to being a physician, he was also a mentor, researcher, and inspirer. The courses in microsurgery he organised at the Centre of Surgical Technology in Leuven, Belgium, in the late seventies were legendary. Afterwards, Stephan opened a private IVF centre under the umbrella of the LIFE institution. Science and innovation have always guided him to push the boundaries and improve his clinical practice and patient care. Training and education, transferring his knowledge without any hesitation and with patience and kindness, were the engines for the numerous courses and congresses he organised in the field of reproductive medicine and minimally invasive surgery. He was given the most prestigious Honorary Membership of the ESGE in 2024.

With more than one hundred scientific publications and decades of dedication within international associations, he left a lasting impact on generations of doctors and on thousands of families who were able to experience hope and happiness thanks to his work.

Those who knew him remember him not only for his exceptional expertise but also for his drive, vision, and warm commitment to patients and colleagues.

His legacy lives on in the science he helped shape, in the lives he helped create, and in the people he inspired. Our community has lost its Gentleman and a Gentle Man.

Stephan will be missed, and his passing affects us deeply, but the richness and value we gained from those intense moments shared with Stephan will remain priceless.

With love, Rudi

Dr Rudi Campo
Member of the Board of Directors, European Society for Gynaecological Endoscopy

Noteworthy Articles

Maxine Reindorf & Rebecca McMurray

ESGE Good Practice Recommendations: Part 1 – Abdominal Myomectomy

Saridogan E et al.

Facts Views Vis ObGyn. 2024;16:263–280. DOI:10.52054/FVVO.16.3.041

This landmark ESGE Good Practice Recommendation provides evidence-based guidance on abdominal, laparoscopic and robotic myomectomy, establishing a universal standard of care where practice has varied so widely. This guideline encompasses pre-operative planning, closure techniques, specimen retrieval and adhesion prevention. They facilitate the navigation of care that can be complex and challenging and should be essential reading for all surgeons involved in fibroid care.



Maxine Reindorf

ESGE Good Practice Recommendations: Part 2 – Hysteroscopic Myomectomy

Clark TJ et al.

Facts Views Vis ObGyn. 2024;16:383–397. DOI:10.52054/FVVO.16.4.054

With a focus on hysteroscopic myomectomy, this guideline provides practical recommendations on patient selection, preoperative optimization, fluid management, surgical techniques and more. In addition to part 1, it provides the first ESGE comprehensive guidance on uterus-conserving fibroids surgery.



Rebecca McMurray

Medical Treatment of Fibroids: FIGO Best Practice Guidance

Diaz I et al

Int J Gynecol Obstet. 2025. DOI:10.1002/ijgo.70497.

This Guideline provides a contemporary framework for medical management for uterine fibroids and highlights the expanding role of oral GnRH antagonists in addition to the need for individualised care according to symptomatology, fertility aspirations and treatment goals.

Improving Early Detection and Care Pathways for Uterine Fibroids in England

Ekechi C,

Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG), Position Statement (January 2026)

<https://www.rcog.org.uk/media/p3op5dtz/improving-early-detection-and-care-pathways-for-uterine-fibroids-in-england.pdf>

The RCOG calls for earlier diagnosis and streamlined care pathways for women with uterine fibroids, emphasising timely access to ultrasound, specialist referral and minimally invasive treatment to reduce delays, improve outcomes and address health inequalities. The recommendations support earlier intervention, greater access to minimally invasive surgery and improved multidisciplinary care for women with symptomatic fibroids.

Gynecologic Surgery for Benign Disease: Preserving Reproductive Potential

Tulandi T et al.

Int J Gynecol Obstet. 2025 DOI:10.1002/ijgo.70546

This article provides recommendations on fertility-preserving surgery for common benign gynaecology conditions including fibroids, endometriosis, adenomyosis and intrauterine pathology. This guideline advocates for fertility-conscious methods and meticulous surgical techniques, to preserve reproductive function where possible.

The Importance of the Pseudocapsule in the Management of Uterine Myoma

Cubo-Abert M et al.

Int J Gynecol Obstet. 2025. DOI:10.1002/ijgo.70269

This review highlights the biological importance of the pseudocapsule in fibroid surgery, for improved outcomes including tissue healing and restoration of reproductive function during myomectomy. Through a review of the current evidence, this paper supports intracapsular myomectomy to optimise these outcomes.

Outcomes of Laparoscopic Myomectomy for Large and High-order Fibroids

McMurray R et al.

J Obstet Gynaecol. 2026. DOI:10.1080/01443615.2026.2630227

This prospective service evaluation demonstrates that complex laparoscopic myomectomy can be safely performed in specialist centres with appropriate expertise, supporting expanding access to minimally invasive surgery for the management of fibroids.

Preoperative Relugolix Combination Therapy in Laparoscopic Myomectomy

Vandermolen B et al.

Arch Gynecol Obstet. 2025. DOI:10.1007/s00404-025-08174-5.

This paper provides the first clinical evidence that relugolix combination therapy can optimise patients without compromising surgical planes, allowing for good symptom control whilst awaiting surgery.

Fibroids and Fertility: Evolution of Practice and Future Outlook

Roberts R et al.

TOG. 2026. DOI:10.1111/tog.70034

This comprehensive review provides an up-to-date summary of evidence on diagnosis, medical and surgical management in addition to pregnancy and assisted reproductive technologies following myomectomy. It also highlights the importance of an individualised approach, whilst recognizing the need for higher-quality evidence to guide clinical decision making.

Co-occurrence of endometriosis and uterine fibroids: a systematic review and meta-analysis

Fiore A et al.

The Lancet eClinicalMedicine 2025;89: 103510 DOI: 10. 1016/j.eclinm.2025. 103510

This systematic review and meta-analysis provide evidence supporting an epidemiological association between endometriosis and uterine fibroids. It demonstrates that women with endometriosis have a three-to tenfold higher odds of fibroids compared with controls. It suggests that clinical awareness of this association is crucial to optimize both patient management and short- and long-term women's health outcomes.

Following the NOSE: when surgical evolution outpaces the evidence.

Khazali S et al.

Facts, Views & Vision in ObGyn. 2026;18(2):75–77. DOI:10.52054/FVVO.2026.473.

This editorial explores the evolution of minimally invasive colorectal surgery for endometriosis through the lens of **Natural Orifice Specimen Extraction (NOSE)**, presenting it as a refinement of an already established surgical pathway aimed at reducing abdominal wall trauma while maintaining the principles of radical disease excision and functional preservation. It provides an important perspective on the integration of innovation into complex endometriosis surgery.

Postoperative and Long-term Outcomes of Nerve-sparing Segmental Rectal Resection and Complete Nodular Resection

Krentel H et al.

Facts Views Vis ObGyn. 2026;18:94–103.

A retrospective single centre study comparing complete nodular resection with nerve sparing segmental resection in women with rectal endometriosis. It supports a tailored surgical approach to colorectal endometriosis, with mucosa-sparing complete nodular resection offering equivalent symptom control, with improved post-operative bowel function.

First Birth Rates After Surgically Verified Subtypes of Endometriosis

Tuominen A et al

Fertility and Sterility. 2026;125:660–670.

A national registry study of almost 10,000 women providing valuable prognostic information on reproductive outcomes after surgically confirmed endometriosis, recognizing the influence of disease subtype and maternal age on fertility outcomes. It provides valuable information for counselling women regarding their reproductive potential, in addition to reiterating the importance of early diagnosis and individualised management

Endometriosis: 'Game-changing' New Tests May Speed Up Diagnosis in Primary Care

Wise J.

BMJ. 2026;394:e100215.

NICE has recommended the introduction of two non-invasive diagnostic technologies to complement, rather than replace existing diagnostic pathways for women with suspected endometriosis. These tests **Endosure** and **Endotest** have the potential to contribute towards reducing the diagnostic delays in endometriosis in addition to reducing the reliance on diagnostic laparoscopy.

Artificial Intelligence–Enhanced MRI Radiomics for Discriminating Active and Fibrotic Lesions to Support Therapeutic Decision Making in Deep Endometriosis

Peluso S, Lucidi V, Di Giovanni MC, et al.

Journal of Minimally Invasive Gynecology. 2026;33:778–786. DOI: 10.1016/j.jmig.2025.12.037.

This innovative study explored the use of artificial intelligence, MRI radiomics and machine learning to characterise deep infiltrating endometriosis (DIE) before surgery. Using quantitative MRI features, combined with graph-based image analysis, the authors developed machine learning models capable of differentiating active from fibrotic endometriotic lesions with a balanced accuracy of 72.7%. The models also demonstrated promising performance in predicting pain phenotypes, achieving up to 88% balanced accuracy for chronic pelvic pain.

The ability to distinguish biologically active from predominantly fibrotic lesions preoperatively could have important therapeutic implications. Fibrotic lesions are generally less responsive to hormonal therapy and often require more complex surgery, whereas active lesions may be more amenable to medical management. Although limited by its single-centre design and the need for external validation, this study highlights the growing potential of AI-assisted imaging.

Future Events

APAGE Annual Congress

Dates: 4-7 September 2026

Location: Bali, Indonesia

[Click for more info >>>](#)

ISUOG World Congress

Dates: 6–9 September 2026

Location: Dubai, UAE

[Click for more info >>>](#)

SEGi Congress

Dates: 23- 26 September 2026

Location: Rome, Italy

[Click for more info >>>](#)

SEE YOU THERE!

ESGE 35th Annual Congress

Dates: 4–7 October 2026

Location: Kraków, Poland

[Click for more info >>>](#)

ASRM Scientific Congress & Expo

Dates: 24–28 October 2026

Location: Baltimore, USA

[Click for more info >>>](#)

IASP World Congress on Pain

Dates: 26–30 October 2026

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

[Click for more info >>>](#)

AAGL Global Congress on MIGS

Dates: 13–16 November 2026

Location: Boston, USA

[Click for more info >>>](#)

17th Congress of ESG

Dates: 17–20 March, 2027

Location: Porto, Portugal

[Click for more info >>>](#)

GYNIItaly

Dates: 7-10 April 2027

Location: Milan, Italy

[Click for more info >>>](#)

RCOG World Congress

Dates: 22–24 April 2027

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

[Click for more info >>>](#)

World Congress on Endometriosis (17th)

Dates: 2–5 June 2027

Location: Istanbul, Turkey

[Click for more info >>>](#)

IUUGA Annual Meeting

Dates: 10–13 June 2026

Location: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

[Click for more info >>>](#)

ESGE Annual Congress 2027

Dates: TBC

Location: TBC

[Click for more info >>>](#)

FIGO World Congress

Dates: 31 October – 5 November 2027

Location: Montréal, Canada

[Click for more info >>>](#)

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Anyone who would like to share ideas for articles, interesting images or other items should submit them to the central office at centraloffice@esge.org



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