

# Microsurgery Around the World Europe

Welcome to Belgrade 5-8 May, 2018.

<http://www.efsm2018.org/en>

The European Federation of Societies for Microsurgery is the only federation that joins together the European national microsurgery societies. Their interest is to promote a high quality education for their members by permanently increasing their level of knowledge. The First Congress was held in Rome, Italy in 1992 and the forthcoming, 14<sup>th</sup> will be held in Belgrade from May 5<sup>th</sup> to May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

So, the main event in the European Microsurgery will be the 14<sup>th</sup> Congress of European Federation of Societies for Microsurgery (EFMS). It will be held in Belgrade from May 5<sup>th</sup> to May 8<sup>th</sup> 2018. The co-chairs of the congress are the General Secretary of EFMS Professor Alexandru Georgescu and the president of EFMS Professor Marko Bumbasirevic. With contribution of distinguished microsurgions from both Europe and other countries, there is a hope that Congress will be very successful. So far, the waste majority of the best microsurgions, all around the world confirmed their participation in the Belgrade EFMS congress (<http://www.efsm2018.org/en>).

Such a contribution is brought about keeping each specific cultural makeup, within a common language and in the interest of a shared cultural and operational purpose.

The Congress will gather microsurgions from all European associations as well as microsurgions and reconstructive surgeons from different countries around the world. One day will be devoted to the Symposium organized by WSRM, chaired by Professor Isao Koshima. Also, the basic microsurgical course will be organized for the first time and it will be free of charge for all participants.

The program includes instructional courses, panels, conferences, and free papers that will cover all the fields of modern microsurgery. The sessions are divided into: Lower limb reconstruction – trauma; Upper Limb reconstruction – trauma; Microsurgical and non-microsurgical reconstruction of war injuries (ballistics); Limb reconstruction – elective; Congenital deformities Micro vs. non microsurgical; bone defects ; head and neck ; brachial plexus; Microsurgical course; Mangled extremities; Replantation; Free Flaps; Spine; Urogenital; Breast; Peripheral Nerve; Lymphedema; Cadaveric Limb transplant; Functional muscle transfers; Artificial limb – crossfire – limb, bionic, robotic; microsurgery in solid organ transplant.

For the first time in the history of EFMS, a contest will be organized for residents only. There would be a best case award and a best young surgeon award.

Also, there will be the Nursery day. The invited speakers will give their point of view in a book entitled “Technical Tips for Microsurgery. How I do it”, which will be given to all participants. The outstanding microsurgions are invited to

contribute to the special issue of Injury journal, related to this congress, which will be published before the Congress and distributed to participants.

On behalf of the EFMS Council, we will be looking forward to meeting you in Belgrade.

## PAST ACTIVITIES

In 2017, the year between the EFMS Congresses, there have been a lot of microsurgery activities held in different countries Park, Sabapathy, Fu-Chan Wei, Santamaria, Bumbasirevic, Georgescu, Ninkovic

Prof. Marko Bumbasirevic

Invitation

Confirmed participants, Scott Levin, past President of WSRM, Milan Stevanovic, Historian of WSRM and Marko Bumbasirevic, President of EFMS.

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discussions were added to illustrate which flap is the most appropriate in clinical practice. Such courses give orthopedic surgeons sufficient knowledge of the most commonly used flaps. By the end of the entire procedure for each flap, participants learned techniques of flap elevation, tips and tricks for each one, and specific cases in which this flap could be used.

The main dissections, demonstrations and supervision were done by outstanding orthopedic surgeons and microsurgeons.

Cluj, Romania

Between 27-29 April 2017, a major event took place in Cluj Napoca, Romania: the XI Congress of the Romanian Society for Surgery of the Hand, joined with the XII Congress of the Romanian Society for Reconstructive Microsurgery and The National Conference of the Romanian Association of Plastic Surgeons.

Excepting the 296 registered participants, there were 45 international invited lecturers, from Europe, USA, Egypt, etc. and 36 Romanian lecturers. The congress's program included 33 scientific sessions, 6 invited Conferences, 3 Keynote lectures and another 229 scientific lectures.

Because the event catalyzed surgeons involved in various microsurgical procedures, regardless of specialty field, there were a large number of sessions dedicated to microsurgery, such as brachial plexus reconstruction, peripheral nerves, composite tissue transfers, facial palsy, breast reconstruction, replantation, compression neuropathies, mangled upper and lower limb reconstruction, free flaps, perforator flaps, lymphedema, experimental and teaching in microsurgery, head and neck reconstruction and diabetic foot reconstruction.

During the meeting were organized sessions dedicated to residents and also contests for the best free paper in Microsurgery, Hand surgery and Plastic surgery.

Before the congresses, took place the 1<sup>st</sup> Cluj-Napoca International Course on Perforator Flaps, April 24-25, 2017, and the AAHS Pre-Congress Course – Advances in Hand Surgery, April 26, 2017.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Cluj-Napoca International Course on Perforator Flaps was organized in the Simulation and Practical Skills Center at the "Iuliu Hatieganu" University of Medicine and Pharmacy Cluj Napoca and was enriched by the presence of Prof. Geoffrey Hallock (USA), Bruno Battiston (Italy), Lucian Jiga (Germany) and Alexandru Georgescu (Romania). In the course, 10 participants were able to harvest by themselves, supervised by specialized trainers, the most used and important perforator flaps all over the body, in experimental animal living tissue (pig), in real surgical theatre operations.

The AAHS Pre-Congress Course – Advances in Hand Surgery was organized with the exceptional involvement of the American Association of Hand Surgeons, with 19 USA eminent lecturers and panelists, who shared their experience with the Romanian and foreign participants.

Athens, Greece

33<sup>rd</sup> Microsurgery Seminar

Education has been a primary concern in the Greek Microsurgery family. The first initiative was the Hellenic Microsurgery Seminar that is designed to give hands on training to young surgeons in basic techniques. It was initiated in 1984, and this yearly seminar has trained over 1000 surgeons. These Seminars have met with great success, with extensive waiting lists to be trained by the best national and international microsurgeons including Urbaniak, Gilbert, Nunley, Foucher, Brunelli, Villki, Georgescu, Bumbasirevic, Cuice, Ioanac, Frostick, Millesi, Eisenschenck, Stevanovic, and many more. The Orthopaedic Research & Education Center (OREC) is a very important research and education initiative that was established in 2010, by Professor Panayotis N. Soucacos, with the aim to champion cutting edge orthopaedic research, provide stimulating laboratory and training environments for orthopaedic residents, students, post-doctoral fellows and faculty. OREC's dedication to education is reflected in its logo which reads "γηράσκω δ' αεί πολλά διδασκόμενος" (I grow old ever learning many things) quoted from Solon (630-560 BC), an Athenian statesman, founder of the Athenian democracy and poet.

Since 2010 after Professor Soucacos' appointment to Athens in 2002 and the opening of the Orthopaedic Research & Education Center (OREC), the seminars have been hosted in Athens. This year, on June 7-10, 2017, the 33rd Annual Microsurgery Seminar and 7th Peripheral Nerve & Brachial Plexus Surgery Seminar was celebrated. By unanimous vote, it was decided that the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Seminar was in tribute Faculty in Athens.

Faculty in Cluj, Georgescu, Soucacos, Bumbasirevic, Nabil, Beris, Hallock.

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