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## #ECR2015: A Decade of Development for the European Society of Radiology



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More than 20,000 radiologists, radiographers and medical students are expected in Vienna this week, as the European Congress of Radiology opens for business. ESR President, Professor Lorenzo Bonomo took the opportunity to look back at a decade of development, since the European Association of Radiology and the European Congress of Radiology joined forces to form what Bonomo calls “a single house of radiology”, the European Society of Radiology, now the largest radiological society in the world.

Bonomo reflected on a decade of developments:

- 2005 European Society of Radiology founded (Society has 3,426 members)
- 2006 European School of Radiology (ESOR) and European Institute for Biomedical Imaging Research (EIBIR) founded
- 2008 First electronic elections
- 2010 Launch of [Insights into Imaging](#), the online open-source journal
- 2011 European Board of Radiology (EBR) founded, first European Diploma in Radiology (EDiR) examination held. More than 140 candidates will site the exam at ECR this week.
- 2012 First live online streaming of ECR sessions
- 2013 Statutory merger of ESR and ECR presidencies as of 2017
- 2014 EuroSafe Imaging campaign launched
- 2014 ESR membership passes 60,000 and the Society's flagship journal European Radiology has achieved its highest impact factor (4.33)

### ESR Meets National Radiological Societies

Bonomo set himself the goal as President of drawing the national radiological societies closer by intensifying dialogue with them. The European Congress of Radiology features “ESR meets...” sessions with national societies. Under Bonomo's leadership, now ESR goes to national society congresses around Europe. These sessions include a general talk by the ESR President followed by scientific talks. Already such sessions have been held in Croatia, Israel, Russia, Rurkey, Belgium, Greece and Denmark. In 2015 Ukraine, Slovakia, Sweden and Bulgaria will welcome the ESR at their national congresses.

### ESR Support Initiative

With widely varying conditions across Europe, Bonomo noted that the ESR, as part of its social responsibility vision, has started an initiative to improve access to radiology training and educational resources for aspiring physicians and scientists in less affluent regions of Europe. Bonomo founded the initiative, and said “As the economy continues to struggle in many parts of Europe, the ESR Support Initiative comes at exactly the right time to help alleviate major shortages in radiological resources and training.”

From 2015 the ESR Board of Directors will select one country each year for the initiative. Bulgaria is the first country selected. “I am delighted that we now have the chance to share our resources with colleagues in Bulgaria. For me, this just the beginning of the ESR Support Initiative's great work, as we will continue to serve our community so that they can better serve their patients”, added Bonomo. Benefits for the country involved will include a number of Invest in the Youth places, which enable trainee radiologists and radiographers to attend the ECR free of charge; a number of scholarships and fellowships within initiatives of the ESR and the European School of Radiology (ESOR); free access to ECR On Demand throughout the year, and fellowships at European hospitals and initiatives, among other items.

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