Invitation

Dear Colleagues,

We are honoured to be the host of the 50th ERA-EDTA Congress in the beautiful city of Istanbul, where we hope to have an outstanding scientific program combined with a great social program which we will prepare to make the 2013 ERA-EDTA Congress a unique one, worthy of the golden anniversary year of our Society.

The meeting will be held in the Istanbul Congress Center which is a new building located in the heart of the city within walking distance from most congress hotels.

The Scientific Committee has taken great care in preparing a high-quality and varied programme that will incorporate the latest developments and ideas in basic science, transitional and clinical science, to be presented in the form of lectures, mini-lectures, symposia and courses, as well as industry-sponsored symposia. The programme will be closely linked to advances in modern nephrology and also to the epidemiology of chronic kidney disease.

Being a city that has been the home of several empires, religions and cultures, we feel like Istanbul, the big metropolis of today is a “collage” of all its past and its stakeholders.

The city still houses sculptures of the Roman era, the biggest churches of the Byzantine Empire along with the mosques of the Ottomans and has been an incredible melting pot for people of all races and times. We have asked the famous contemporary Turkish painter Mr. Ismail Acar to create a special image for the cover of this booklet, this “collage” reflecting several aspects of our city that against all odds functions harmoniously creating the current magic of an ageless city. We hope that like this painting reflects the daily life of our city, our discussions during the congress will reflect all aspects so as to give better patient care with improvements in all its elements from surgery to home care, from pharmaceutical industry to nursing.

As the local organizing committee, we are looking forward to welcoming you to Istanbul to celebrate our golden year in May 2013 to share the spectacular scientific programme with us and planning the next 50 years of nephrology in Europe.

Raymond Vanholder
ERA-EDTA President

Gültekin Süleymanlar
Congress President

Cengiz Utas
Congress Secretary
ORGANISING COMMITTEE

ERA-EDTA President: Raymond Vanholder, Belgium
Congress President: Gültekin Süleymanlar, Turkey
Congress Secretary: Cengiz Utas, Turkey

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Chair: Rosanna Coppo, Italy
Raymond Vanholder, Belgium
Daniel Abramowicz, Belgium
Hans-Joachim Anders, Germany
Josep M. Campistol, Spain
Pierre Cochat, France
Terry Cook, UK
Simon Davies, UK
Olivier Devuyst, Switzerland
Jesus Egido, Spain
Danilo Fiser, Germany
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Francesco Locatelli, Italy
Gérard M. London, France
Francesca Mallamaci, Italy
Ton Rabelink, Netherlands
Giuseppe Remuzzi, Italy
Mehmet Sukru Sever, Turkey
Peter Stenvinkel, Sweden
Gültekin Süleymanlar, Turkey
Vladimir Tesar, Czech Republic
Cengiz Utas, Turkey
Andrzej Wiecek, Poland

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

ERA-EDTA President
Raymond Vanholder
University Hospital Ghent
Nephrology Department
De Pintelaan 185
9000 Ghent
Belgium
Fax: +32-9-3324599
E-mail: vanholder@era-edta.org

Congress President
Gültekin Süleymanlar
Akdeniz University Medical School
Department of Medicine, Renal Division
Dumlupinar Caddesi
07070 Antalya
Turkey
Fax: +90-242-2303028
E-mail: gsuleymanlar@gmail.com

Congress Secretary
Cengiz Utas
Erciyes University School of Medicine
Semiha Kibar Organ Nakli ve Diyaliz Hastanesi
Talas yolu üzeri
38039 Kayseri
Turkey
Fax: +90-352-4375807
E-mail: utas@erciyes.edu.tr

Chair of the Scientific Committee
Rosanna Coppo
Divisione di Nefrologia e Dialisi
Ospedale Regina Margherita
Piazza Polonia 94
10126 Turin
Italy
Fax: +39-011-6635543
E-mail: rosanna.coppo@unito.it

CONGRESS SECRETARIAT

ERA-EDTA Congress Office
Via Spolverini 2
I-43126 Parma
Italy
Phone: +39-0521-989078
Fax: +39-0521-959242
E-mail: congress@era-edta.org

Registrations
E-mail: registrations@era-edta.org

Exhibition and Sponsorship Sales Contact
Mr. Paolo Zavalloni
ERA-EDTA Congress Office
E-mail: zavalloni@era-edta.org

ERA-EDTA Membership Office
c/o Mrs. Monica Fontana Faughnan
Office Manager
Via Aldo Moro 18
I-35030 Bastia di Rovolon (PD)
Italy
Phone: +39-049-9910957
Fax: +39-049-9913028
E-mail: membership@era-edta.org

Destination Management Company
FIGUR
Ayazmaderesi Cd. Karadut Sk. No:7
34394 Dikilitaş
Istanbul
Turkey
Phone: +90-212-3814600
Fax: +90-212-2586078
E-mail: infoera-edta2013@figur.net
Website: www.figur.net
Communication Manager: Ms. Ebru Ersan
The ERA-EDTA’s 50th anniversary will be celebrated with a scientific programme which, in honour of the event and of the hosting city, will be named **50 years of history: ERA-EDTA’s silk road in Nephrology**

It will include some very attractive novelties.

The opening day will be dedicated to the **ERA-EDTA Working Group Fair** with several CME courses dedicated to the areas of interest of the ERA-EDTA Working Groups

- EURECA-m: EUropean REnal and CArdiovascular Medicine Working Group
- IWG: Immunonephrology Working Group
- WGIKD: Working Group on Inherited Kidney Disorders
- Transplantation Working Group in collaboration with European Society of Organ Transplantation (ESOT)
- EuDial: European Dialysis Working Group
- EUTox: European Uremic Toxins Work Group
- CME Courses in collaboration with European Society of Paediatric Nephrology (ESPN)

For the first time the ERA-EDTA will hold a Symposium on the EU political health systems, presenting the good and bad in national system organizations for dialysis, transplantation and prevention of kidney diseases: **Overview on Health Care in Nephrology, Dialysis and Transplantation in Europe.**

During the entire Congress a particular focus will be provided on two scientific themes which will have dedicated halls with a continuous programme on

- **Paediatric Nephrology, Genetic diseases and early diagnosis of renal diseases**
- **Renal transplantation: how to improve organ recruitment and preserve long term graft function**

Disease-oriented thematic organization of the programme will guide the attendants through the most recent advances in other relevant scientific areas, always integrating basic science with the clinical context, looking at new risk factors, early biomarkers and new therapeutic perspectives

- **Fluids and electrolytes, tubular transport, physiology and renal regeneration**
- **Glomerular diseases and clinical nephrology from basic science to therapy**
- **Acute Kidney Injury: pathophysiology and critical care**
- **Chronic Kidney Disease: pathophysiology, epidemiology, prevention of progression**
- **Hypertension, vascular diseases and diabetes**
- **End Stage Renal Disease and dialysis**

Exceptional speakers will present plenary lectures; symposia will allow deep insights into selected relevant topics; poster sessions without parallel activities will allow a high interaction among young researchers with similar scientific interests. A **Young Nephrologist Platform Open Space** will be implemented close to the poster area.

The **Educational activity** will not be limited to the series of CME courses held during the opening day, but each day will start with **Master Classes** on selected topics.

Finally, another novelty will be a session at the end of the Congress devoted to

- **Developing Nephrology in Europe and Related Countries.**

This Symposium is aimed at offering Nephrologists of the developing Countries the possibility to present some selected works and national activities at the ERA-EDTA audience for discussion.

**Rosanna Coppo**
Chair of the Scientific Committee