New Year's greetings from ESNR

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The year 2013 has been a very successful and fruitful year for the European Society of Neuroradiology (ESNR). For the past year, our society witnessed great accomplishments and developments regarding Neuroradiology education and continued to grow with many neuroradiologists and societies from all over the world joining our family. With 4,084 members, ESNR is one of the major societies. Currently, 23 countries are represented in the Institutional Members Council. In 2013, new partnerships were established with many national Neuroradiological Societies such as Australia–New Zealand, Austria, Bosnia Herzegovina, Croatia, Finland, Latvia, Norway, Serbia, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, and the UK. Alongside these Neuroradiological societies, ESNR has also been cooperating with many other medical institutions and organizations.

Just as the previous years, our primary objective as a society has been maintaining the leadership in Neuroradiology training and certification in Europe. The European School Of Neuroradiology (ESONR) has gained a more structured and institutionalized status under the chairmanship of Prof. Pia Maly Sundgren. Examination and Accreditation Subcommittees were established within its body and aim to support the organization in standardizing Neuroradiology education throughout Europe. Under the leadership of Prof. Paul Parizel, the Accreditation Subcommittee has been working on the rules and guidelines for the accreditation of the training centers, while the Examination Subcommittee has been primarily focusing on the

standardization of the examinations under the chairmanship of Prof. Majda Thurnher.

Within the three levels of ESONR Neuroradiology training, European courses in Neuroradiology have gained worldwide acceptance. With a great number of people signed up in advance, every course has filled to capacity and established waiting lists for prospective participants. Many participants have attended from outside Europe, including the Americas, Asia, Australia, and Africa. Furthermore, higher qualification European Diplomas have been introduced as a representation of the standardized third level Neuroradiology training. Only neuroradiologists who attend the third level courses of ESONR and pass individual examinations of each course as well as the final examination fulfill the criteria and are therefore entitled to obtain these higher qualification European Diplomas.

Among first level courses, the Galen Foundation Course was organized by Prof. Cem Calli in Izmir, Turkey. This course introduced the basics of neuroradiology to radiology residents. The Galen Foundation Course also represented one of the activities of “European Month of the Brain” (EMoB) of the European Brain Council (EBC). This course had the logo of EMoB and was included in the EMoB activity report.

Under the 12th cycle of ECNR, the second course of “CNS Tumors” was organized in Athens, Greece, by Prof. Athanasios Gouliamos, and the third course, “Vascular Diseases”, was organized in Antalya, Turkey, by Prof. E. Turgut Tali respectively. Following these courses, participants who completed the cycle of four courses and fulfilled the eligibility criteria applied for the board examinations. Forty-one applicants passed the board examination and thus, they have received the European Diploma in Neuroradiology (EDiNR).

At the third level, Pediatric Neuroradiology, Interventional Neuroradiology, and Spine Interventional Neuroradiology courses have been initiated while the Head and Neck Neuroradiology course is yet to be introduced. Under the leadership of Prof. Andrea

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Rossi, the guidelines for the Pediatric Neuroradiology courses and the criteria regarding the European Diploma in Pediatric Neuroradiology (EDiPNR) were defined. Seven neuroradiologists who attended to the Pediatric Neuroradiology courses passed all the examinations and fulfilled the eligibility criteria and therefore obtained the European Diploma in Pediatric Neuroradiology.

All diplomas were given at the Diploma Ceremony during the Annual Congress of ESNR in Frankfurt.

Prof. Mario Muto was delegated to lead the initiatives in European Diploma in Spine Interventional Neuroradiology (EDiSINR), and the Training Charter, course program, guidelines for the courses, logbook, and other criteria for the EDiSINR were finalized. Prof. Muto initiated the theoretical and practical courses in 2013. Similarly, Prof. Michael Söderman was responsible for the theoretical and practical Interventional Neuroradiology courses, which were also initiated in 2013 and include a Training Charter, logbook, and criteria regarding the European Diploma in Interventional Neuroradiology (EDiINR). Additionally, we established an “INR Board”, inviting representatives of other specialties to this Board and collaborated with (ESMINT) under his leadership. Prof. Alex Rovira Cañellas was delegated to lead the initiatives in European Diploma in Head and Neck Neuroradiology (EDiHNRR). For this initiative, collaboration began with the European Society of Head and Neck Radiology. Prof. Tali and Prof. Schucknet attended a meeting organized by the President and Executive Committee members of ESHNR during the Annual Congress of ESHNR and discussed the possibility and details of the collaboration.

ESNR not only focuses on Neuroradiology education through ESONR, but also participates in the initiatives of European School of Radiology (ESOR) and European Society of Radiology (ESR) for the European Subspecialty Training in Radiology. The European Training Curriculum for Radiology was recently endorsed by the UEMS Radiology Section on October 12, 2013, and by the UEMS Council on October 19, 2013. The European Training Curriculum for Radiology was revised jointly with a 5-year (three+two) training period of which the first 3 years are of level I training followed by more flexible 2 years of level II training with special interest (subspecialty) rotations. Parts of level II training in a subspecialty may be counted for the subspecialization portfolio. The full

subspecialization always requires further level III (subspecialty) training.

This year, five neuroradiology training grants that offer an opportunity to complement subspecialization training in neuroradiology or an existing structured fellowship program through exchange were offered jointly by ESNR/ESONR and ESR/ESOR. We are also currently working on more support enterprises for neuroradiology training during the upcoming year.

In 2013, the publications of ESNR have been very successful. The number of submissions for Neuroradiology is increasing and the impact factor remains virtually stable. Furthermore, a new cover for Neurodiology was introduced and the Journal is now more attractive. Following the invitation of ESR, “European Radiology” is now the second official journal of ESNR. We also decided to prepare an “ESNR Textbook of Neuroradiology” which can be a reference book for the ESONR activities with contribution from all course faculties.

For relations with other societies, Prof. Tali initiated collaborations with the Japanese Society of Neuroradiology and Prof. Thurnher worked with the Brazilian Society of Neuroradiology and the Neuroradiological Society of Sao Paulo. Negotiations with these societies aim to initiate joint courses, including fellowship support and raising education grants. Moreover, the “ESNR Booth” was offered for the first time during RSNA Congress in Chicago, which is one of the most important Radiology meetings, introducing ESNR, presenting ESNR's activities, and increasing the worldwide recognition of ESNR.

The American Society of Neuroradiology (ASNR)–ESNR joint session was renamed the “Special Session: WFNRS presents the Best of ESNR” for the ASNR Annual Meeting 2013 in San Diego. Six of the best presentations from the ESNR Congress were selected by Prof. Thurnher, ESNR representative and liaison person for ASNR, and presented successfully by Profs. Auger, Haller, Politi, Rovira, Smits, and Steketee.

The Third Spine Radiology Joint Meeting of ASSR and ESNR took place in Milan between 5 and 7 July 2013. The scientific program of the meeting offered a well-balanced mix of diagnostic and interventional spinal neuroradiology topics. During the meeting, panel discussions were offered with other related societies such as the EuroSpine and North American Spine Society (NASS). All issues regarding the spine radiology and particularly spine interventional neuroradiology were

discussed in detail. We have now decided to enhance the collaboration for the future of spine neuroradiology and interventions.

The 37th Annual Congress of ESNR was held successfully in Frankfurt between 28 September and 1 October 2013 with approximately 800 participants. This year, Honorary Memberships of ESNR were awarded to world-renowned Neuroradiologists Prof. Jordi Rusalleda from Barcelona, Spain, and Prof. Makhn Khangure from West Perth, Australia, due to their valuable contributions to Neuroradiology worldwide. They received their certificates during the opening ceremony of the Congress. Furthermore, Dr. Joanna Bladowska received the ‘ESNR Award in Honour of Prof. Hans Hacker’ and Dr. Lajos R. Kozák received the Lucien Appel Award. In addition, Dr. Bernd Turowski, as the author of the most cited manuscript, received the ESNR-Springer Award that was introduced this year. Last but not least, Dr. Montanez and Dr. Weber won the best Educational and the best Scientific Posters of the ESNR 2013 respectively. The ESNR–ASNR joint session of “Future Techniques in Neuroradiology” was also held with contribution of Profs. Rivka Colen, Roland Lee and Gregg Zaharchuk as the representatives of ASNR. For the first time this year, a Joint Session on Pediatric Neuroradiology with the American Society of Pediatric Neuroradiology (ASPNR) was organized by Prof. Rossi. During this ESNR–ASPNR Joint Session on “Advances in the understanding of brain malformation”, Profs. Andrea Righini, Thierry A.G.M. Huisman, Nadine Girard, and A. James Barkovich delivered lectures.

Finally, as the Treasurer's tenure has ended, we held an election during the Annual Congress and Prof. Johan van Goethem has been re-elected to the position.

The year 2013 has been a truly successful year for ESNR. It has been a privilege to work with the officers and the members of the committees of ESNR to contribute to the careers of present and prospective Neuroradiologists in Europe and the rest of the world and to achieve greater accomplishments for our subspecialty and the Society. ESNR grows with the participation of each and every one of its members. Hence, we sincerely hope that as the members of the Society, you will become actively involved in our society and participate in various activities in 2014 as well.

On behalf of ESNR, we wish you and your beloved ones a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year in 2014!

Honorary Member Prof. Jordi Rusalleda with Prof. E. Turgut Tali, President ESNR, and Prof. Majda Thurnher, Vice-President ESNR

Honorary Member Prof. Mark Khangure with Prof. E. Turgut Tali, President ESNR, and Prof. Majda Thurnher, Vice-President ESNR

Dr. Kozak with Prof. E. Turgut Tali, President ESNR, and Prof. Pia Maly Sundgren, ESONR Chairwoman

Dr. Bladowska with Prof. E. Turgut Tali, President ESNR, and Prof. Rüdiger von Kummer, Awards Committee Chair

The winner of the first Springer Prize for the most cited paper—Dr. Bernd Turoswki—with Isabel Arnold, Springer Editor Clinical Medicine, and Prof. Guido E. Wilms, Editor-in-Chief Neuroradiology

Diploma Ceremony for European Diploma in Pediatric Neuroradiology gathering of teachers and students

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Prof. E. Turgut Tali, President ESNR, at the ESNR Booth during the Radiological Society of North America Annual Meeting in Chicago, USA