Editorial

W. Puhl

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Dear EFORT members, members of specialty societies and readers of *European Orthopaedics and Traumatology* (EOTR),

One year ago, at the EFORT congress in Madrid, our official journal was launched—and we now have our official EFORT journal up and running.

We started the scientific communication between all of us with the intention to educate and to harmonise. Thanks to all who participated in this start-up and in the first year of the journal's existence.

Now we will celebrate the first anniversary and we will do this at our EFORT congress in Copenhagen, which is celebrating the 20th year of the foundation of the European Federation of Orthopaedics and Traumatology.

EOTR demonstrated during its first year of existence the partly intensive work of a broad board of editors and reflected the activity of authors from Europe as well as abroad. *The next step, starting this year*, is the intensive

involvement of the members. To do this, all national member societies will be represented on the “board of liaison editors” of the journal. This will be the way to bring in the best articles from different countries into our journal, as well as interesting topics to be discussed on a European basis. Hopefully, this also will help to make our EFORT network stronger.

Under the same view, *specialty societies cooperating with EFORT* will be involved, with all their expertise, to help in the continuous education of all orthopaedic surgeons of Europe. As a main intention of EOTR is to work for the best education and harmonisation of knowledge in Europe, the most experienced specialists are needed for this. Combined activities will lead to better patient care.

EFORT understands that our daily work, with all the factors influencing working conditions, depends on political decisions taken more and more in the European Parliament. Therefore, we have to be present, we have to be visible and we have to be involved in processes leading to political decisions. *The journal will help to distribute to all of you trends, news and facts from the political arena..* This, then, is not only a message but also could be a mechanism to define relationships with decision-makers in Brussels coming from all our member countries.

Last but not least, we are all in close contact with industry, especially those active in research and development. This cooperation, over decades, is the basis of the excellent work orthopaedic surgeons are able to do—in many activities—with the help of continuously optimised medical technology. News from this field, as scientific articles, will also be published in our journal.

Overall, our journal, now in the second year of existence, will do everything possible to educate and harmonise, and by involving member societies and specialty societies, help build up a close network between all of us, making us stronger, which is necessary for success in the future.

W. Puhl (✉)
Orthopädische Spezialklinik Oberstdorf,
Trettachstrasse 16,
87561 Oberstdorf, Germany
e-mail: wolfgang.puhl@me.org