Dear EPOS members, colleagues and friends,

As we bid farewell to 2023, a year marked by economic, political, and ecological challenges, we find solace in reflecting on the triumphs from an EPOS perspective. Throughout the year, our collective efforts flourished with numerous educational events and the immensely successful annual conference held in Krakow, Poland.

Under the guidance of EPOS President Prof. Hakan Ömeroğlu, a pivotal virtual meeting convened delegates from diverse European national societies. This fruitful event not only fostered collaboration but also promises to continue fortifying our ties and elevating the visibility of EPOS initiatives.

A key focus in recent months has been diligently preparing for the upcoming EPOSNA meeting scheduled for May 2024. Further details are available in the newsletter below.

Wishing you all joyous Holidays and an abundance of blessings as we stride into 2024!

Catherine Chiari
Councillor EPOS Executive committee · Contact newsletter@epos.org

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**Presidential Letter**

by Professor Hakan Ömeroğlu

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Dear Members,

In the past eight months, our efforts within the EPOS Executive Committee have been diligent and purposeful. Through a combination of virtual and in-person meetings, we’ve aimed to maintain the momentum of our society. Education has remained a cornerstone, exemplified by the success of our instruction courses and initiatives to disseminate knowledge globally. Notably, our forthcoming textbook on paediatric trauma stands as a testament to our commitment to scholarly pursuits. The Scientific Committee’s dedication to research grants and the development of our journal demonstrates our ongoing commitment to advancing orthopaedic knowledge.

EPOSNA 2024 in National Harbour, MD is fast approaching, promising a compelling gathering. Collaborative efforts with other societies and our support for emerging talents underscore our collective aspirations. For a detailed overview of our accomplishments and future plans, I invite you to read the full statement.

Yours sincerely,

Prof. Hakan Ömeroğlu
EPOS President (2023-2024)

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**Website Committee Updates**

The EPOS Website committee has been very active this year in implementing the very first EPOS app, which was used in the 41st EPOS Meeting held in Krakow.

This is a project EPOS is committed to implement as a fully established platform using the useful information we have acquired after launching this pilot app.

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**The EPOS Podcast**

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The Website Committee successfully delivered the first 3 episodes of the EPOS Podcasts:

- FEPOS – Fellowship under the supervision of European Paediatric Orthopaedic Society
- EPOS Annual Meeting – Best Papers Winners
- Paediatric Supracondylar Fractures

Every seven years, POSNA and EPOS team up to host an incredible Annual Meeting, and EPOSNA 2024 is just around the corner! Set for May 8-11 at the Gaylord National Resort & Convention Centre in National Harbor, this event promises an exciting lineup. Nestled along the Potomac River and one of the East Coast's largest convention centres, the venue offers a stunning backdrop near Washington, D.C.

The Program Committee has poured months of effort into curating a stimulating agenda, focusing on author presentations to spark engagement and discussions. They rigorously reviewed nearly 1,400 abstracts, handpicking 250 for podium presentations and 180 for e-Posters, representing 31 countries. This diverse selection ensures attendees gain a global view of paediatric orthopaedics’ current practices worldwide.

Attendees can anticipate the latest in research and clinical insights, presented through papers, educational posters, and expert-led symposiums across various paediatric orthopaedic disciplines.

The sessions will cover an array of topics including Basic Sciences, QSVI, Spine, Trauma, Hip, Sports Medicine, Hand & Upper Extremity, Foot & Ankle, Neuromuscular, Congenital/Syndromes/Dysplasias, Tumors & Infections, with a spotlight on trending subjects this year.

Just like in previous years, attendees will get to vote for the top papers, with awards for the best Clinical Paper, Basic Science, and e-Poster. The meeting will also feature six Industry Symposia and prestigious lectures like the Lead Like Lori Lecture.

Social gatherings are planned, providing an exceptional chance to connect with peers from around the globe in this remarkable setting.

Save the date! We can't wait to welcome you there!

Warm regards,

Cristina, Franck, Ilkka & David
EPOSNA Programme Committee

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**Educational Activities: Courses**

EPOS Courses in January 2024 will take place at the Orthopaedic Hospital Speising in Vienna, Austria.

- **24-25 January 2024**
  - **EPOS BAT ADVANCED COURSE – FUNDAMENTALS OF PEDIATRIC SPINE DEFORMITIES**
  - 1.5-day course finishing lunch time on the 25th of January
  - This event is aimed at pediatric orthopedic surgeons and fellows aiming to improve their knowledge on pediatric spinal deformity assessment and management.
  - During the past years, progress has advanced the understanding and treatment of many aspects of pediatric spinal deformity that have resulted in new clinical applications and treatment options.
  - Several renowned experts in the field will deliver multiple lectures addressing all aspects of pediatric spinal deformity, including new diagnostic tools, indication for surgery and management of complications.

  [Scientific Program](#) | [Registration](#)

  ![EPOS Advanced Course](#)

  Vienna, Austria: 24-25 January 2024

- **25-26 January 2024**
  - **EPOS BAT ADVANCED COURSE – FUNDAMENTALS OF PEDIATRIC ORTHOPEDIC ONCOLOGY**
  - 1.5-day course starting after the lunch break on the 25th of January
  - This event is tailored to deepen your understanding of the pathoanatomy, pathogenesis, diagnostics, and therapeutic strategies specifically related to pediatric bone tumors.
  - Led by a renowned faculty with vast experience in this field, the course promises to be a remarkable opportunity for professional growth and development.

  [Scientific Program](#) | [Registration](#)

  ![EPOS Advanced Course](#)

  Vienna, Austria: 25-26 January 2024
You have the opportunity to participate in both courses: *Spine surgery course* (24-25.01) and *Oncology course* (25-26.01) and pay a combined REDUCED registration fee.

- **6-8 March 2024**  
  **EPOS BAT INSTRUCTIONAL COURSE TRILOGY (Part I)**  
  Venue: Orthopaedic Hospital Speising, Vienna, Austria  
  Registration will open before Christmas break

- **27-28 June 2024**  
  **EPOS BAT ADVANCED COURSE – DDH AND HIP ULTRASOUND**  
  Venue: Orthopaedic Hospital Speising, Vienna, Austria  
  Registration will open early 2024

- **26-27 September 2024**  
  **EPOS BAT ADVANCED COURSE: CLUBFOOT – AIMING FOR PERFECT, FROM DIAGNOSIS TO TREATMENT**  
  Venue: Portugal  
  Registration will open in spring 2024

- **November 2024 (exact dates TBC)**  
  **EPOS BAT INSTRUCTIONAL COURSE TRILOGY (Part II)**  
  Registration will open in summer 2024

**Educational Activities: Travelling Fellowships**

The **2024 EPOS Travelling Fellowships Programme** will be held in collaboration with SLAOTI. The call for applications was open until the end of September 2023. We received many highly qualified candidates. After careful evaluation, the following three applicants have been selected for this prestigious programme:

- Karol Gawlewicz from Sweden
- Alexandru Herdea from Romania
- Darius Rad from UK

For further information, including criteria and access to the previous fellowship reports, please visit [EPOS Travelling Fellowships Programme](#).

**FEPOS, the European Paediatric Orthopaedic Society Fellowship**

The EPOS fellowship (FEPOS) is a programme for training paediatric orthopaedic surgeons, supervised and accredited by the European Paediatric Orthopaedic Society (EPOS).

The diversity of training and experience in the practice of paediatric orthopaedics across Europe brings great opportunity for innovation and mutual learning. However, as it has been happening in many other fields, a common ground of training is necessary to certify that minimum standards are met.

The aim of the FEPOS fellowship is to address this challenge by establishing a framework for communication and accredited training within the EPOS community with the explicit goal of improving the quality of orthopaedic care for children.

Further information will soon be available on the [EPOS website](#) – Stay tuned!

**Educational Activities: EPOS Research Grants**

Call for applications for 2023 EPOS Research grants Programme was open until the end of September 2023. The EPOS Scientific Committee is currently evaluating all the applications and we expect to communicate the results to all the applicants by email during January.

For further information, please visit [EPOS Research Grants](#).
The EPOS Research Priority Setting study aims to identify the important and unanswered research questions from both clinical and basic sciences perspectives in children with orthopaedic problems and prioritise those that are most important.

Working with clinicians across EPOS we aim to perform a modified Delphi study to identify the key elective, traumatic and basic science questions that remain unanswered in Paediatric Orthopaedics. We aim to perform a modified Delphi approach with 3 rounds of input from all of you.

The input from EPOS members will be analyzed, grouped and refined by a steering committee after each round. This process will result in a list of key research questions within paediatric orthopaedics.

For further information, please visit EPOS Research Priority Setting study.

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