



## Introduction

Who could have ever imagined that nurses, in the year of the Nurse 2020, would have been brought to the test due to the corona virus pandemic? Most of us were not prepared, health systems were not prepared but we are still dealing with it. We deal with the knowledge and experience we have, with the expertise of our leaders and with the protected equipment available. Nothing seems perfect although we still need to make things work. Not because of efficiency but because there are lives to save, not only the lives of patients on the wards but of colleagues and the population. Additionally, the greatest problem is that we have no idea where and when it will stop. It has all the characteristics of a war zone, with health services using make shift hospitals, armies to help and void streets. Some countries like Croatia, Zagreb, in the midst of the outbreak also experienced an earthquake of a magnitude of 5,4. Therefore these are unprecedented times indeed.

This April ESNO's Newsletter is delayed due to the urgent matters our profession is experiencing, both from those at the office and those of us working with patients. In this mail we would like to update you with the ongoing activities and processes of ESNO.

For this, the ENO board created a Communiqué on Corona, and also in process for translations, soon available.

A banner for the ESNO Communiqué on Corona. The background is dark green with a stylized illustration of a coronavirus particle. The text 'ESNO COMMUNIQUÉ ON CORONA' is written in large, white, bold, sans-serif font. Below it, in a smaller white font, is 'READ THE FULL STORY HERE'.

**ESNO COMMUNIQUÉ ON CORONA**  
READ THE FULL STORY HERE

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## Year of the Nurse

Maybe some of you are familiar with the ancient mythology and the god Janus. The god with the two faces, looking at both directions: the god of beginnings, gates, transitions, time, duality, doorways, passages, and endings. As we are in the year of the nurse, time to celebrate, to capture our past and looking to the future, we have ended in a year where we are put to the ultimate test. On the one hand this very sad, we had so much other plans to celebrate but on the other hand, this is also a perfect time to show our strength, capabilities, and the aptitude to adapt and lead during uncertain and challenging times.

It's far too early to foresee where we will end but we very much hope that at the end of this year we can recapture 'Our Year of the Nurse and Midwife' As we had to cancel the 12th May event in Brussels, ESNO remains in the plan create an online activity to mark this special day under special circumstances.

**Latest News from ICN President Annette Kennedy: the year of the Nurses will be extended for an other year.**





## Congress 2020

ESNO Congress - Thursday 20 February 2020 - Brussels, Belgium

Please find some of the Oral Abstract Presentations below



### Plenary Room

- [Walter Sermeus](#) - Health Workforce Dynamics and the future of Nurse Specialists
- [Donna Walsh](#) - Neurological Nurse Specialists: A Vital Resource
- [Christine Willems](#) - Perioperative Nursing Education in Europe: State of play - The first step towards free movement in Europe to ensure the quality of care
- [Stephanie Kohli](#) - A common Training Framework (CTF) for European Hospital Pharmacists – where are we now?
- [Yvonne Hustings-van Eyck](#) - E-Health to enhance person-centred care in rheumatology nursing: towards better understanding and harmonisation in European context



### Room Gamay

- [Mwidi Ndosu](#) - The challenges of harmonising competences and training of specialist nurses and health professionals in rheumatology

### Room Merlot

- [Luc Gryson](#) - A European curriculum for post registration qualification in process
- [Effe Deprez](#) - Competences and educational needs in European Dermatology nurses: findings of a survey of nurses and dermatologists
- [Sumitra Mahadevan](#) - Nursing Education-Challenges in Diversity, Teaching Structure & Emerging Technologies



### Room Syrah

- [Ilaria de Barbaris](#) - The Nephrology Nurse in Europe: a position statement
- [Ulrike Beilenhoff](#) - Education of Endoscopy nurses in Europe over the last 30 years
- [Patrick Crombez](#) - Recognizing Cancer Nursing across Europe: where do we stand?
- [Kaisa Immonen](#) - The patient organisation perspective on a unified understanding of the specialist nurses in an increasing demanding health environment

## ESNO congress 2020 and 2021

The day before the first patient in Europe died from the Corona virus we had a very successful congress in the heart of Brussels. We remained with a full house to the very end. This 2020 congress was the second of the three sequenced congresses on the **'position and role of the specialist nurse towards 2030'**. The ever increasing demands on nurses due to the growing expectations of quality and science and the reality of the shortage of doctors demand that nurses need to upscale their expertise. The congress was an impressive exposure of Nurses' competency and training frameworks in health domains and specialities.

Last week ESNO published a [Position Statement](#) on the congress and this is now available on our website and will soon be translated in a number of languages. Also, the congresses' [presentations are available on the website](#). On the 9th of April the congress committee met and started to work on next year's sub-theme that will be held. We will also invite Specialist Nurses to speak or present in workshops through posters via an **open call for abstracts, oral and poster**.

Save the date on the 26<sup>th</sup> February 2021



## Events cancellations: ESNO and our members

Due to the Corona outbreak, all face to face events are cancelled. These include; ESNO events such as the launch of the Nurses Guide on Microbes 28th April and the 12<sup>th</sup> May celebrations in Brussels. We had to accept this setback and a cancellation fee but are in process of finding a constructive solution for an event at the end of this year. And at the same time, an online alternative will take place.

In general, although we are seeing a lot of meetings taking place on-line, and although we all seem to be getting familiar and accepting this, we also know that this is not the same as when we actually meet as a network. Without a doubt, **we do miss the interpersonal dynamics and inspiration during events and again proves the relevance of such meetings in person.** Notwithstanding this, we accept the reality and understand the need and use of technology to be pragmatic and for reaching out goals.

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## Education Committee

Last year, ESNO saw the establishment of the Education Committee that is surely getting into shape with Nico Decock in the lead. The committee consists of a number of members' representatives from their educational groups. Our planned meeting in April in Brussels is postponed. But one may find the findings of the survey that took place during the congress on the website in May 2020. In all, it remains clear that the variety of roles, positions, educational frames all over Europe are hugely fragmented and does not contribute to sustainable healthcare and specialist nurses mobility. More in the Education committee in next Newsletter



## **NEW** : FoNSE, ESNO Foundation

While the footprint of ESNO and Specialist Nurses in the European health context is growing, the ESNO board members decided to establish a special

Foundation to handle all those health themes and projects in a professional structures.

On the 24th March the **Foundation of Nurse Specialists Europe** was officially established and a provisional website was created. For the organisation to become fully functional we envisage a two year process but we are proud to have started this important initiative within ESNO.

More may be found on: [www.fonse-europe.com](http://www.fonse-europe.com)



## NURSES GUIDE ON MICROBES

With great pride, we can announce that the development of the guide has been completed. During the designing process, it became very clear that we needed to include the Corona issue and we think we included relevant material.

This final guide will be launched on the **28th April 2020 as scheduled follow #ESNOguide**. The guide will be available online and in printed version.

1. This will mark the end of the first phase, composition, finalize and distribute.
2. Second phase: translate this in a significant number of languages and distribute it to nurses.
3. Third phase is start working on the Second edition to launch mid-November 2020 during 'World Antimicrobial Awareness Week 2020'

For the second version we will again reach out to our constituencies for suggestions and engage institutes to contribute to this project with the ultimate goal that this guide will be available for education, both for training purposes but also for professionals to continue their Professional Development.

READ OUR BLOG →





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